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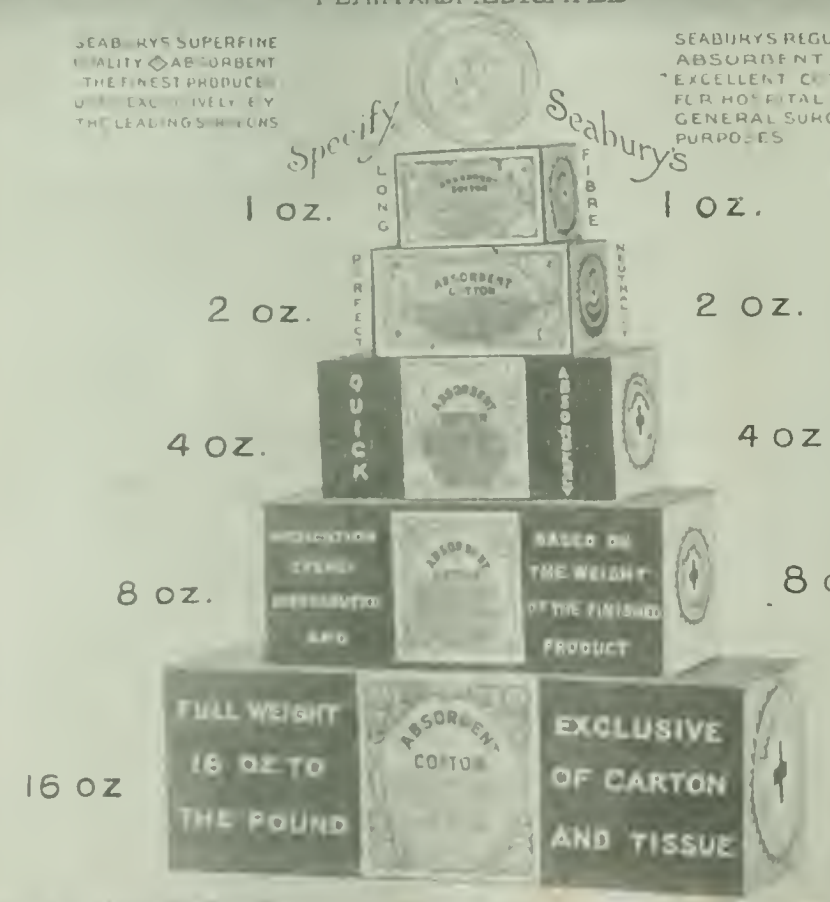

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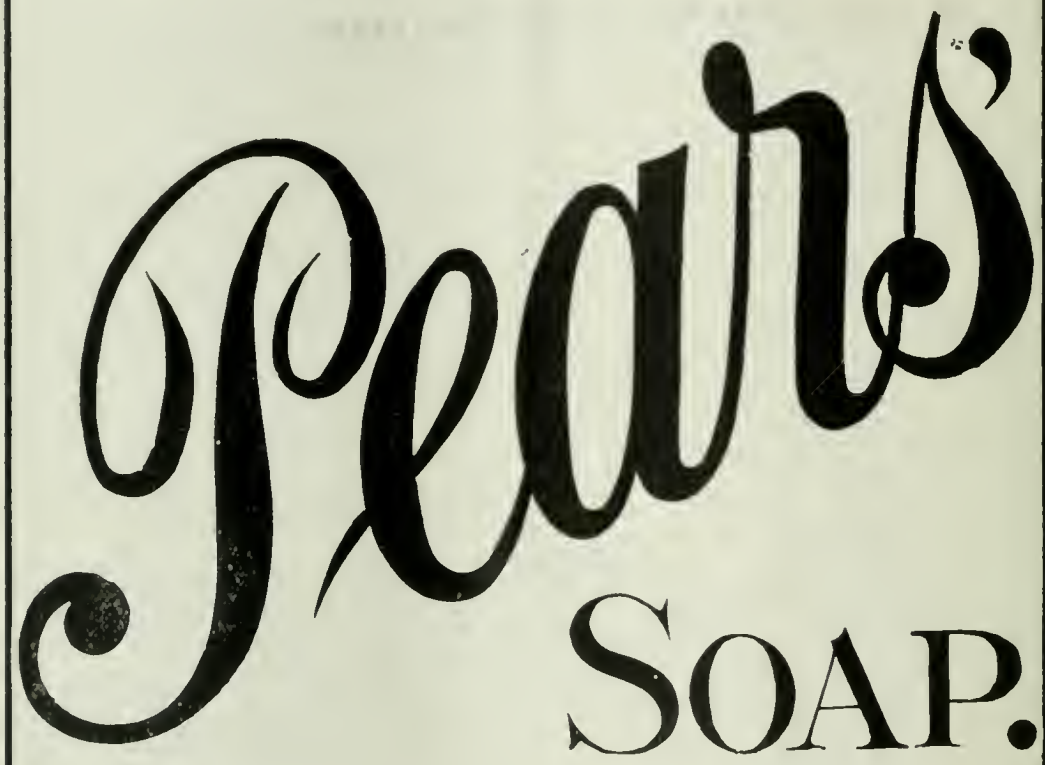

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THE AUSTRALASIAN

Journal of Pharmacy.

[REGISTERED UNDER COPYRIGHT ACT].

No. 351. MARCH 20TH, 1915. Vol. XXX.

War Notes.

Military Pharmacists and the Desire for Commissioned Rank.

Some Necessary Disclaimers and some "Clarified" Facts.

By FRANK BUCKHURST, PRESIDENT OF PHARMACEUTICAL DEFENCE LTD.

It appears necessary to again refer to this question in order that there may be no misapprehension as to the position.

At the instance of the various State pharmaceutical organisations, certain just and equitable requests were made to the Minister of Defence in regard to pharmacists and the Army medical service.

As the result of these representations, the following concessions were granted:—

1. Qualified pharmacists were given the honorary rank of lieutenant in the A.M.C. Reserve.
2. The title of "Army Dispenser" was withdrawn from trainees in the Citizen Forces who were only required to pass a casual examination, and whose principal duties were to act as stretcher-bearers and hand out prepared medicines.
3. The practise of issuing a certificate of competency in pharmacy to "Army Dispensers" was discontinued.

The demand for commissioned rank was refused on two grounds:—

1. Because the British War Office did not grant it.
2. Because the work was of such a simple character.

Reason No. 1 will not stand serious criticism in the light of other divergencies from the Imperial Army Regulations.

Reason No. 2 is not based on facts in the light of actual experience.

What Pharmacists Really Want.

The Editor of the *Chemist and Druggist*, in attempting to justify his opposition to the movement, asks "what do pharmacists really want," and accuses the deputation of "confusion of thought."

There has been no confusion of thought. The various deputations have clearly stated the position.

Pharmacists fail to see why they should be treated differently to other professions. Despite official and non-official disclaimers, they *are* called upon to do important professional work. To illustrate this statement: In the January number of the *Chemist and Druggist* are published the experiences of a dispenser on one of the transports. The duties included assisting the doctor in inoculating anti-typhoid vaccine; making up large quantities of stock mixtures, fitting up the dispensary like a chemist's shop, etc. The writer goes on to say:—

"I have a great stock of tablets—Aspirin, 10,000; astringents, 5200; bismuth, 9000; soda salicylas, 8000; calomel, 11,200; phenacetin, boracic acid, bromide potassium, ichthyol, calcium lactate, salol, chlorate of potash, jalap, caffein citrate, Easton's syrup, quinine, antipyrin, mercury, nitrotropine, ammonia carbonate, rhubarb and soda, borax, opium, strychnine, iodide of potassium, chloral hydrate, digitalis, zinc sulphate, potash permanganate, potash permanganate and alum, corrosive sublimate, mercuric iodide, and soloids; gallons of cough mixture, black draught, tincture of iodine, strong iodine, Friar's balsam, castor oil, lysol, rectified spirits, methylated spirits, and quite a lot of other drugs, bandages, cotton wool, lint, gauze; a fine collection of surgical instruments. Also a good quantity of ointments and liniments. I dispense for close on 2000 men, including the officers, so you can imagine that we have to carry a very large stock. The Surgeon-General has just inspected my dispensary and informed me that it was a credit to me."

This is only work done on a transport. How much more important will be the duties demanded on the field of battle. It hardly coincides with the official statement that principally tabloids and soloids are all that the dispenser has to handle.

A dispenser in the R.A.M.C., recounting his experiences, says that in addition to his dispensing duties he was required to undertake milk and urine analyses.

In the "Argus" of March 13 reference is made to "the great need for men to perform first aid duties of bandaging and sterilising wounds just behind the firing lines." Dr. J. W. Barrett expresses his wish that he had more young medical students at the front. Pharmacists by their training and experience are admirably suited to this class of work, and, with the dearth of medical men, the pity is that the services of the trained dispenser have not been availed of more freely by the Department.

Pharmacists claim that their skill and training entitle them to commissioned rank in the Army Medical Service, whether classed as Army Compounders or any other designation.

An Argument Evaded.

In the February issue of the *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy*, eight quotations from the *Chemist and Druggist* article of January 1 were re-printed. To each of these I gave a categorical answer. No attempt has been made to reply to these arguments. The truth of one is reluctantly admitted. The other seven remain unanswered.

Instead of attempting to meet the position, great pains are taken to mention three unimportant misquotations which do not alter the sense of the paragraphs as they originally appeared. No opportunity is given to *Chemist and Druggist* readers to judge for themselves the facts of the case set out in the official statement. Space is too valuable for this purpose. With much drollery, the Editor concludes his remarks on the P.D.L. statement: "Deary me! We shall be much wiser after all this kind advice."

A Volte Face.

The reply to the official statement, however, reveals one interesting fact. There has been a change in position, which is summed up in the following words:—Pharmacists are "right" if they claim recognition for their professional services, "wrong" when it is for the work of mere Army Compounders. Apparently, then, the January attitude has been abandoned. But to turn to the new position—the "right" for professional services, the "wrong" for Army Compounders. The whole argument for recognition has always been based on professional services. At all the deputations the various speakers laid particular stress on this point, and emphasised the value of closer association between the surgeon and physician and pharmacist. More adequate recognition of the pharmacist's professional services has always been the fundamental basis of the demand for commissioned rank. Yet the writer of the article says: "No effort was made" (by the deputation) "to elevate the service to the full possibility of the qualification."

Yet another curious position is created by the attempt to turn the uncompromising attitude of January 1 into the qualified approval of March 1. For if the March statement is to be accepted as settled policy—"right" if for professional services, "wrong" for Army Compounders—what is the position of the Hon. Lieutenants in the A.M.C. Reserve? They will have to do the work of compounding (or, as the article puts it, "A Lieutenant doing the work of a private"). Yet the March policy "is opposed to a claim for commissions for the mere work of the army compounder." Therefore, the conclusion arrived at must be that even the rank of the Hon. Lieutenant for pharmacists in the A.M.C.R. is contrary to the March view of the case.

The Plain Answer Still Wanted.

"*Right or Wrong—a Plain Answer Wanted*," demands the critic. Which recalls a famous saying, "My country right or wrong"; or, to paraphrase the saying, "My opinion right or wrong." The plain

answer is still wanted. Let me repeat the question: "How can a journal, ostensibly published in the interest of pharmacists, justify itself in going out of its way to attack a policy which the pharmacists of Australia and New Zealand (and other parts of the Empire) have given a mandate to their leaders to carry into effect?"

Not the Right Time!

The Pharmaceutical Societies of Queensland and South Australia are well able to uphold their position, and space is not necessary to enter into this aspect of the question. One word of explanation only is required, as a good deal of stress has been laid on the alleged delay in making the protest. Here, again, the critic is in error. The criticism was published on January 1. The first meeting held after the date was the P.D.L. meeting on January 20. At that meeting it was unanimously resolved to bring the matter under the notice of the various State Pharmaceutical Societies. Letters were forwarded as directed, and were dealt with at the first meetings of the Councils after they were received. There was no "catspaw" and no "helping to roll logs." The protest was rightly made because no independent body of men could for a moment allow themselves to be placed in such a false position that, whilst they were carrying out a policy laid down by the different States, the official organ of some of those States was going out of its way to attack the fundamental principle of the agitation.

The *Chemist and Druggist* re-iterates the complaint that the agitation is ill-timed. An appalling picture is drawn of an overworked Minister being dragged away from his duties to receive a deputation which desired him "to alter one of the wheels because some people outside thought the wheel was unhappy!" (It is difficult to imagine, in any case, how a wheel can be unhappy.) If the P.D.L. official statement had been published in the *Chemist and Druggist*, the readers of that journal would have seen that there was no clamour. But perhaps it is necessary to explain this somewhat more fully.

In November, 1914, a Defence Bill was introduced in the Federal Parliament. The Editor of the *Chemist and Druggist* wrote to the secretary of the P.D.L., and suggested that the introduction of this Bill might present an opportunity of securing what was wanted. At the same time, the Pharmaceutical Council of Western Australia wrote urging the P.D.L. to take further action. A strong appeal was also received from the Central Pharmaceutical Association of New Zealand.

In both the latter cases the directors decided not to approach the Minister during the duration of the war. Dr. Maloney, M.H.R., was, however, written to, and asked whether the Defence Bill did present the opportunity suggested by the Editor of the *Chemist and Druggist*. He replied by sending copies of the Bill, and stating that the Minister would like to receive a further deputation on the subject. This deputation was not asked for by the P.D.L. Arrangements were made without its solicitation, and common courtesy demanded acceptance of the invitation.

Stripped, then, of its unessential verbiage, the naked truth emerges. Had it not been for the letter from the Editor of the *Chemist and Druggist*, suggesting further action, there would have been no deputation in November. Therefore, if the agitation was ill-timed, if there was any clamour, the blame must rest on the shoulders of the censorious critic himself. This reveals a situation, so delightfully Gilbertian, that it quite puts into the shade the now famous "catspaw" fable of Æsop which so entertainly disports itself in the early stages of the March article. Surely, in the light of these facts, pharmacists will not expect me to pursue the matter further.

The Victorian Motor Ambulance.

Mr. R. W. Waller, who left Melbourne in charge of the motor ambulance presented by Victorian pharmacists, writing from Port Said, on January 28, to Mr. C. E. Towl, says that "the car is now at hard work, and doing it well. You will understand the work I refer to. We are forbidden to go into details of the happenings here, but no doubt you will have seen reference in the papers to what is taking place. I have received a rank since leaving, and am placed in charge when Sergt. Syme is away. I hope to send you more details later on."

Roll of Honor.

Mr. C. S. Callaghan, analyst in Messrs. Felton, Grimwade, and Company's laboratory, Melbourne, has joined the Fifth Expeditionary Force, in which he has been assigned duties in the A.M.C.

Mr. Kenneth J. McLeod, who passed the Final Qualifying Examination, Victoria, in 1909, and has lately been assisting at the Children's Hospital Dispensary, has enlisted for service abroad.

Mr A. Murray Jones, son of Mr. J. A. Jones, chemist, Caulfield, has joined the newly formed Aviation Corps. After three months' training in Australia he expects to leave on active service in Europe.

Mr. R. S. Darling, assistant to Mr. T. E. Turner, Auburn, has joined the Light Horse Army Medical Division, and is now at Broadmeadows.

Mr. T. B. Foster, who came out from Ireland last year, has enlisted, and has been appointed compounder to the Field Veterinary Hospital, a new unit which has just been formed and will accompany the next Expeditionary Force.

Mr. Colin H. Simpson, apprentice to Mr. J. C. Pickford, Armadale, is at present at the Broadmeadows Camp, and expects to shortly see service abroad.

Mr. Fred. Cheshire, junr., apprentice to Mr. A. R. Bailey, Malvern, left on February 25 with the Expeditionary Force (3rd Light Horse Field Ambulance).

Mr. R. G. Grano, assistant to Mr. E. C. J. Davies, Toorak; and Mr. Garrick, junr., son of Mr. J. Garrick, Collingwood, have enlisted, and are now at Broadmeadows Camp.

MR W. L. DONALDSON, son of Mr. J. F. Donaldson, Wickham-street, Brisbane, and a registered pharmacist of Queensland and Victoria, who entered on his medical course at the Melbourne University last year, and has recently been relieving for Mr. C. Hembrow, Bendworth, has enlisted in the Army Medical Corps.

MR OSCAR J. LAWSON, chemist, Fitzroy, Victoria, has been appointed Quartermaster in the 6th Australian Field Ambulance, under Lieut.-Colonel Dr. Hardy, and will shortly leave for the front.

MR. MALCOLM BENNETT, assistant to Messrs. Richmond & Skewes, has enlisted, and is now in camp at Broadmeadows.

MR. LEWIS G. COHEN, second son of Mr. Norman S. Cohen, has left Sydney for England by the "Orsova," with a view of offering himself there for service in the ranks at the front. Mr. Lewis is 28 years of age, and was doing very well in charge of one of the departments of Elliott Brothers Limited. Elliott Brothers' employees did not make him a parting gift, and the money that would thus have been spent was devoted to the Belgian Fund, for which the employees hope to raise about £200 per annum. Mr. Cohen is followed by the good wishes of many personal friends, and his action in throwing up his position and going to fight for his country is a noble and excellent example.

Trade Mark Applications.

An application by the E. Wesley Company Limited, of 64 Pitt-street, Sydney, for the avoidance or suspension of the registration of Trade Mark No. 1617, in the name of Ferdinand Muller, of Kehl, Germany, came on for hearing before the Registrar of Trade Marks, Mr. George Townsend, early in March. The application was opposed by Julius Blau and Sons Limited, of 233-235 Clarence-street, Sydney. Mr. Bayston appeared on behalf of the applicants, and Mr. Rigby on behalf of the opponents. The Commissioner's report and observation on the case has been forwarded to the Attorney-General, with whom the final decision in such matters rests.

Insect Powder as a Prize.

Mr. Justice Hood, sitting as a Prize Court in Melbourne on February 24, directed the issue of a warrant upon the Consul for Norway and Mr. J. Hagemann, importer, in respect of the proposed condemnation of 30 cases of insect powder, ex "Arabia," seized at the port of Melbourne as a good and lawful prize. According to Reuter, Mr. Hagemann, of Liverpool Buildings, Bourke-street, Melbourne, had received a bill of lading for the goods from Ertzgaard and Co., of Christiania, and another from a receipt for a remittance of £64 paid for the goods. Hagemann declared that he acted solely as agent of Ertzgaard and Co., and had no previous correspondence with them. He thought the goods were portion of goods ordered by him before August 4 from one Riedel, in Germany, and on September 12 he received a cable message from Christiania reading, "Riedel again re-begin shipments, make regular remittance, telegraph Ertzgaard," and he believed that Ertzgaard and Co. might be acting as the agents for Riedel. The correspondence from Riedel, which had been seized by the censor, gave a list of six or seven names of persons in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Switzerland, and Italy—all neutral countries—to whom correspondence might be directed, and through whom goods might be obtained. The invoice of these goods had come from Ertzgaard and Co., Christiania, and a letter had been received by this week's mail containing similar documents respecting the same goods from a firm in Milan, Italy. Hagemann had informed the authorities of all the facts, and there was no suggestion that he was in any way concerned with the goods. He had assisted the authorities in every way.

Exportation of Drugs from England.

In the *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette*, No. 10, under date February 27, 1915, a proclamation by the King is published dealing with the prohibition of exportation of "warlike stores." Previous prohibitions are revoked, and a fresh list is substituted. This list includes a number of substances of general importance, as well as certain drugs. The following drugs cannot be exported from England to any other country:—

Acetanilide, Acetone, Acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin), Aconite and its alkaloids, Methylic alcohol, Ammonium sulpho-cyanide, Antimony, Antipyrine (phenazonum), Belladonna and its alkaloids, Benzoic acid, Benzol, Bromides, Cantharides, Carbolic acid, Caustic potash, Chloral and Chloramid, Coca, Collodion, Cresol, Diethylbarbituric acid (veronal), Emetin, Ergot of rye, Eucaine, Formaldehyde, Gentian, Glycerine, Henbane, Hexamethylene tetramin (uratropin), Hydrobromic acid, Ipecacuanha, Mercury, Neo-salvarsan, Nitrate of sodium, Novocain, Paraldehyde, "Peptone Witte," Phenacetin, Potassium salts, Protargol, Saccharin, Salicylic acid, Salol, Salvarsan, Santonin, Sulphate of zinc, Sulphonal, Tartaric acid, Thymol, and Trional.

The exportation of the following drugs is prohibited to all foreign ports in Europe, and on the Mediterranean and Black Seas other than those of France, Russia (except Baltic ports), Belgium, Spain and Portugal:—

Bismuth, Camphor, Castor-oil, Iodine, Salts of Mercury, Nitrate of Ammonium, Nitric acid, Nux vomica and its alkaloids, Picric acid, Sulphar, and Sulphuric acid.

The Ambulance Construction Commission.

This is the first great war in which field motor ambulances have been extensively used. It was inevitable that many defects should be found in existing types, and in various quarters experts began to ask whether something could not be

done to standardise the patterns and to improve the type. At the instance of Mr. Henry S. Wellcome, the founder of the Wellcome Bureau of Scientific Research, a Commission has been formed, and the names of members show at once that the matter is regarded as of first importance by those most intimately connected with the welfare of the wounded soldier.

Sir Frederick Treves, whose long experience and distinguished service specially fit him for the task, has consented to be the chairman. The Admiralty is represented by the Director-General of the Medical Department, R.N., while the Quarter-Master-General to the Forces and the Acting Director-General, Army Medical Service, represent the War Office. The British Red Cross Society is, of course, represented by Sir Frederick Treves, and the St. John Ambulance Association by Sir Claude Macdonald and Sir John Furley. The remaining members are all experts. This Commission will act as a judging committee for the award of prizes of the value of £2000 provided by the Wellcome Bureau of Scientific Research. These prizes are offered for the best designs of an ambulance body which shall fit a standard pattern motor—chassis for field motor ambulances. Probably in addition to one design of special excellence, there will be submitted various ingenious suggestions which may be incorporated in the pattern design approved by the Commission. For these, a portion of the prize-money has been set apart. The first prize is of one thousand pounds, the second of five hundred, and the third of three hundred pounds. All details of conditions may be obtained from the Ambulance Construction Commission, 10 Henrietta Street, Cavendish Square, London, W. The competition is open to citizens of all nations. The last day for the receipt of competing designs is June 30, 1915.

Imperial Institute.

Technical Information and Research Work.

A despatch has been received by the Minister for External Affairs (Mr. Mahon) through the Governor-General from the Secretary of State for the Colonies (Mr. L. Harcourt), in which authority is given to the Imperial Institute to organise a Technical Information Bureau to undertake investigations for private individuals and firms throughout His Majesty's dominions on payment of suitable fees.

A memorandum setting out the scope of the work to be undertaken by the bureau is published in the *Commonwealth Gazette* of March 6, 1915.

As it is undesirable that the institute should compete with any professional expert, Mr. Harcourt proposes that only special investigations should be undertaken on subjects of a technical character, with which the institute is exceptionally qualified to deal, especially those relating to the production and utilisation of materials which occur in the British Empire, or which might be introduced into British countries, and are considered likely to be of value to British trade.

These include investigations as to the value of new or little-known raw materials; chemical analyses, assays, and valuations of raw materials, such as fibres, rubbers, oil seeds, waxes, foodstuffs, tanning materials, essential and fixed oils, gums, resins, drugs, tobaccoes, minerals, ores, water, fuels, etc.

Another branch of the Department is that which deals with problems in which uninterrupted scientific investigation is needed. For example, important questions are submitted relating to the cause of the occasional poisonous properties of tropical plants when eaten by stock. These can only be determined by systematic investigation of the nature of the constituents of these plants. The pioneer researches on subjects of this kind led to the recognition of the occurrence in plants of what is now known as cyanogenesis, which has proved to be of great importance to tropical agriculture. It is very desirable that these investigations should be continued.

Necessity for continuous research also arises in the cases of drugs reputed to be of value in the colonies, and of new essential oils, the value of which cannot be determined until their constituents have been fully investigated; and the same is true of several other subjects, which open up a fertile field for scientific investigation. In recent years such work has been obliged to be given a secondary place, since the entire time of the staff is more than fully occupied with what may be described as ordinary analytical and other technical work in connection with the numerous samples of products of all kinds which are sent to the Institute.

It is now proposed that a few specially selected assistants should be appointed to devote their whole time to the prosecution of these scientific investigations.

For these reasons, it is desired to reorganise and extend the work of the Scientific and Technical Department so as to provide, in addition to what may be described as its ordinary routine work for (1) the collection and dissemination of trustworthy technical information respecting the development of tropical agricultural production and the production and commercial utilisation of raw materials of all kinds, and (2) the conduct of special scientific investigations.

The Lysol Trade Mark.

On January 19 application was made to the Commissioner of Patents, on behalf of Pearsons Antiseptic Company, by Mr. Owen Dixon (instructed by Mr. Vincent Nolan), to void the trade mark popularly known as lysol. The Attorney-General has granted the suspension in favour of the company subject to the following conditions, amongst others:—The strength and purity of the lysol to be approved by the Commonwealth analyst; the price not to exceed the market price immediately prior to the war; a royalty (not exceeding 10 per cent.) to be paid on the net selling price. The application of W. H. Bockemann, trading as J. L. Lennard, who

was the former agent for lysol in Australia, and who applied for avoidance in his favour, was refused

Military Contracts.

The following contracts have been let by the Defence Department:—

Medical Equipment.—Mayer, Meltzer, and Co. Boxes, field fracture, 8, at £15 each. Elliott Bros.—Boxes reserve dressings, 8 at £5 5s. each; saddlebags, surgical, pairs, 8, at £21 each. Felton, Grimwade.—Medical companions, 26, at £9 10s. each; haversacks, 55, at £3 10s. each; panniers, field, medical pairs, 15, at £58 each; do., surgical pairs, 8, at £80 each; do., reserve, field, medical pairs, 2, at £70 each; boxes operating, preparatory, 8, at £3 3s. each.

Hospitals for Troops.

As previously announced, Osborne House, Geelong, and the Police Hospital, St. Kilda-road, are to be used as hospitals for returned soldiers. Captain G. R. Darby will be in charge at Geelong, and Dr. F. G. Meade, of the Melbourne Hospital staff (a former pharmacist), at the Police Hospital.

German Proprietaries.

The British Drug Houses Ltd. have issued the following list of "well authenticated British products which may be prescribed in place of German Proprietaries":—

German Proprietary	British Equivalent
Aurisol	Sanusin
Aristol	Thymol iodidum
Aspirin	Acidum acetylsalicylicum B.P.
Benzosol	Guaiacol benzoas
Collodin	Pyroxylin purificatum B.D.H.
Chloralamid	Chloral formamidum B.P.
Dermatol	Bismuthi subgallas
Dionin	Ethylmorphinae hydrochlor.
Diuretin	Theobromina et sodii salicylas B.P.
Duotal	Guaiacol carbonas B.P.
Eucain B hydrochloride	Benzaminae hydrochlor B.P.
Eucain L lactate	Benzaminae lactas B.P.
Eucupin	Quininae ethylcarbonas
Heroin hydrochlor.	Diamorphinae hydrochlor. B.P.
Jodipin	Iodatol
Medinal	Sodium malourea
Migrainin	Phenazonum caffeinae citras
Protargol	Argenti protematum
Pyramidon	Amidopyrin
Tannigen	Acetanum
Tannoform	Methyl-di-Tannin
Trional	Methylsulphonal B.P.
Urotropin	Hexamina B.P.
Veronal	Barbitonum B.P.
Xeroform	Bismuthi tribromphenol

Articles.

The Metric System in Prescribing and Dispensing.

(*British Medical Journal.*)

In the *British Pharmacopœia*, 1914, which is now official, the metric system of weights and measures has been employed not only for all pharmaceutical and analytical computations, but also for the specification of doses. This has been done, the preface says, in the expectation that in the near future the system will be generally adopted by British prescribers. As a transitional provision, however, doses have also been expressed in terms of the imperial system. The relation between the metric and the imperial dose is approximate only, although the approximation is very close. For convenience whole numbers have generally been employed in stating doses expressed according to the imperial system, with but small deviation from the doses already familiar by long usage, and whole numbers have in the same way been employed in stating doses expressed according to the metric system. As fractional differences are thus necessarily ignored, the two sets of whole numbers do not in general express exactly the same quantities.

At the annual meeting, held at Birmingham in 1911, the Council, in accordance with instructions given at the preceding meeting, presented a report on the use of the metric system of weights and measures by medical practitioners in prescribing and dispensing.

The report stated that the advantages of the metric system were that all calculations and measurements were simplified when the measures were related by multiplication or division by 10, which is the basis of our system of notation; that the adoption by the medical practitioner of the same system of measures as is employed in laboratory work would tend to keep in closer touch the investigations of science and the applications of practice, and that the work of the British and other modern nations would gain by being stated in the same terms. The difficulties in the way of its adoption were stated to be, first, the difficulty which practitioners trained in the use of the imperial weights and measures find in adapting themselves to a new system in prescribing or dispensing, and, secondly, the difficulty of bringing about co-operation between doctors and chemists in cases in which doctors do not themselves dispense. The report recommended that medical practitioners should write their prescriptions in metric terms, to facilitate this they were recommended to order mixtures in sixteen-dose bulk and pills or powders in tens, and it was advised that the dispenser should be instructed that every prescription written without symbols was to be dispensed in metric measures. The Council further recommended as a transitional measure certain methods suggested by Dr. R. C. Buist, and based on the actual conditions of British practice. The method gives automatically the conversion of the dosage in grains and minims into a prescription which the dispenser can measure in gram and cubic centimetres with an approximate

exactitude well within the range of the variation of spoon measurements.

Mixtures.

The following sample of a prescription for an 8 oz. mixture, to contain sixteen doses, was given:—

In the prescription of an 8 oz. mixture, of which each tablespoonful is to contain—

(*a*) Tr. belladonnae .. .. *m*v
Spt. aetheris .. .. *m*x
Vin. ipecac. .. .. *m*xv
Syr. scillae .. .. *m*xx
Inf. senegae ad ½ oz. (that is, *m*ccxl),

the metric prescription for the mixture would be—

(*b*) Tr. belladonnae 5
Spt. aetheris 10
Vin. ipecac. 15
Syr. scillae 20
Inf. senegae .. .. ad 240

On comparing (*a*) and (*b*) it is evident that the numbers are the same in both.

In commenting on this the report pointed out that "the prescriber intends a mixture to contain certain substances in fixed proportions, which will be the same in the single dose and in the bulk, and will not be affected whether the measures be stated in minims or in cubic centimetres; the numbers of minims will be larger, but the proportions will be the same. The exact factors for the conversion of grams into grains and of cubic centimetres into minims are 15.4324 and 16.006 respectively. The procedure used in the above example is to take 16 as a near approximation to each of these numbers. (The extent to which this is inexact may be stated as 4 drops in a teaspoonful.) Now, in ordinary prescribing, 16 doses is the most common of all orders, as represented by tablespoonful doses of an 8 oz. mixture. If, therefore, in such a mixture the prescriber orders the numbers of minims of the drugs A, B, C, D, E, in each tablespoonful which he would order in a prescription in English measures, but omits the symbols, and if the dispenser measures in each case the same numbers of cubic centimetres into the bottle, the conversion from English into metric measures will be automatically completed. Thus it is recommended that the practitioner who wishes to write a prescription for metric measures should simply write without symbols the drugs with the number of grains or minims he intends to give in each spoonful, and that the dispenser be instructed that each prescription where no symbols are written is to be dispensed in metric measures. For teaspoonful doses the bulk would be 2 oz. or 60 c.c.m., and for dessertspoonful doses 4 oz. or 120 c.c.m.."

Solutions.

In ordering solutions, the proportions are evident, and the only point to be borne in mind is the total quantity desired. Thus—

(*a*) Cocain hydrochlor. 3
Aq. .. .. ad 60
Sig., 5 per cent. cocain hydrochlor.

(*b*) Argent. nitrat. 1
Aq. destil. 50
Sig., 2 per cent. silver nitrate.

Pills and Powders.

The order for a pill or powder is based on fractions or small multiples of the grain. The prescriber should therefore become familiar with the equivalence 1 grain = 0.06 gram, which is sufficiently exact for practical purposes. To facilitate the work of the dispenser the number of pills or of powders ordered should be a multiple of ten. Thus—

Aloin
Podophylli resinae
Jalapae resinae
Ext. hyoscyami .. .. .. aa 0.015

M.; ft. pil. M. 10. Sig., One after each meal.

Each pill contains a quarter of a grain of each constituent; for his pill mass the dispenser simply shifts the decimal point of the prescription.

The following is the summary of the procedure recommended:—

(*a*) The prescription is still to be based on the single dose.

(*b*) In the case of mixtures, 10 doses are to be ordered by writing with figures only the number of grains or minims of each ingredient in one spoonful.

(*c*) In the case of pills and powders, 10 are to be ordered and the prescription is to give in figures only the metric equivalent of the grains of each ingredient in the single dose.

(*d*) The dispenser is to be informed that every prescription written without symbols is to be dispensed in metric measures.

How to Prescribe in Terms of the Metric System.

As long ago as 1911, the Council of the British Medical Association, at the meeting of the representative body at Birmingham, recommended that medical practitioners should prescribe according to the metric system. The above article is from the *British Medical Journal* of January 9th, and is a resumé of recommendations as to how prescriptions may be written in terms of the metric system. It appears at a peculiarly appropriate time, as at the recent conference of representatives of the Health Department, the Medical Board, the British Medical Association, and the Pharmacy Board, held at the Melbourne College of Pharmacy, it was unanimously resolved that it is desirable that medical practitioners prescribe according to the metric system of weights and measures.

—Ed. *A.J.P.*

Births & Deaths.

BIRTH.

OATEN.—On the 7th March, at Station-street, Seymour, to Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Oaten — a daughter. Both well.

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Editorial.

SUPPRESSING QUACKERY.

The New South Wales authorities are to be congratulated on their efforts to check the operations of the quack specialist in that State. In this issue two important cases are reported under Medico-Legal intelligence. The facts there related are stranger than fiction, and present a sad picture of human frailty.

It does not require any great perspicacity on the part of even the casual observer to see that clever operators, mostly of American origin, have been having a pretty free run for a good many years at the expense of the public and the reputable purveyor of reliable remedies.

Pharmacists are in general accord with the restrictive measures which have been taken in this direction. Some years ago the Victorian Pharmacy Board was successful in a crusade which practically eliminated a certain class of sex specialists from our midst. The revelations made at that time through the medium of the police courts were no less astounding than the evidence submitted in connection with the case of the "Ladies College of Health" and the "Miracle Men" reported in this issue.

If it is now intended to pursue a general policy of suppression there are numerous avenues open to the Government and the police which present further opportunities for effective action. Both press and public will be found on the side of the authorities in such a campaign.

Human credulity, it must sadly be admitted, seems to be as much open to exploitation as ever, and it is only by repressive legislation and stringent supervision that the evil machinations of the quack can be overcome. Legitimate pharmacy will have little or no regret that the days of the charlatan appear to be numbered. Enlightened public opinion which is manifesting itself in restrictive laws and efficient administration must inevitably before long relegate the quack to that obscurity from which it is hoped he will never again emerge.

THE BELGIAN FUND.

It is gratifying to note that the appeal on behalf of the distressed Belgian pharmacists has met with a ready response.

To date the sum of about £450 has been collected in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland. Doubtless the other States are also contributing in equal proportion to their numbers.

Many pharmacists write in sympathy with the appeal. Some would willingly give were they not already fully pledged to local funds. Others would have given more but for equally urgent demands on their generosity.

Calls have been numerous and pressing of late, and each pharmacist must be the individual judge of what he is able to spare towards this Fund.

It is proposed to keep the appeal open for a week or two longer, and then remit the amount collected to the British Pharmaceutical Society for distribution either in food,

clothing or stock to stranded Belgian pharmacists and their families.

Elsewhere will be found a list of the Victorian and Queensland contributions. References to the fund will be found in the reports of the various meetings held since our last issue.

The Month.

Custody of Poisons.

In a recent prosecution instituted by the Victorian Pharmacy Board, Mr. Tanner, P.M., referred to the necessity for a strict observance of the provisions of the Poisons Acts. For good reason, said his Worship, the legislature had fixed heavy penalties for breaches of the Act, and it was very necessary for the public safety that the Board should exercise a strict supervision over the illegal sale of poison. Another matter to which Mr. Tanner referred was the responsibility of the public in respect to the custody of poison. He mentioned the fact (often lost sight of) that persons who had poison in their possession were under the onus of seeing that it was properly labelled and was not left carelessly about so as to become a menace to other people. It is gratifying indeed to find a magistrate taking such a serious view of the obligations cast upon sellers of poisons and persons having them in their custody. Unfortunately the experience of the Board has been mostly in an opposite direction. The salutary penalty imposed by Mr. Tanner should act as a deterrent to those who have got into the habit of regarding the Poisons Act as an almost negligible quantity.

The Sale of Phenyle.

An exemplary penalty was inflicted at Geelong (Victoria) on March 5, when a firm of grocers was fined £5, with £6 13s. 6d. costs for having sold Phenyle, containing 11.96 per cent. of phenolic compounds, in a German Bitters bottle not labelled Poison as required by the Poisons Act. A second charge for selling the poison not in a special bottle failed, the Bench holding that the Bitters bottle was a bottle distinguishable by touch from an ordinary medicine bottle. Originally, the Pharmacy Board intended to proceed under the Poisons Act 1914, which applies to Phenyle

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"Lactic ferments." Absolutely odourless—absolutely white. Owing to the special process of manufacture, Lacteol may be kept any length of time.
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New extract of meat, containing four times more Glycogen and more Hoemoglobin and Iron than any other preparation.
No preparation required whatsoever, a most pleasant beverage immediately at hand by simply adding mineral aerated water. Sold in bottles of 8 and 16 oz.

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Pure Cold drawn Castor Oil, absolutely without colour, smell or taste.
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A perfect pharmaceutical combination of the following CHEMICALLY PURE RECRYSTALLIZED Salts:—Calcii, Sodi, Manganese, Ferri, Strichnine, Glycerophosphates. Entire absence of sugar.
Elixir 6 oz. bottle—Hypodermic (box of 16 amp. of 1 c.c.).

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Colloidal Iodine pure and stable, free from Peptone, Glycogen or Menthol. "Colloidal Iodine is the only antituberculous medicament having definitely proved 'Antitoxic' effects."
Forms: Hypodermic, External, Capsules, Ovules.

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Antigonorrhoeal Iodeol.
Sold in box of 6 amp. of 2 c.c. each.

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The most simple, the most certain, the most economical apparatus for instantaneous preparation of an Aseptic solution of Novarsenobenzol (Ehrlich's 914) for its Aseptic filtration and for its entry into the syringe.

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(606 suppositories). A most excellent method for administration of Ehrlich's 606. No trouble—no harm. Adults and infants. Sold in box of 6.

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Special for urethral injections.

URASEPTINE
The most powerful of all urinary antiseptics.

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TELEGRAMS—AMPSALVAS, LONDON.

Sole Agents for United Kingdom Colonies and Dominions for the above preparations are advertising extensively to the medical profession in Australasia, and would consider any enquiry as a favour.

preparations containing 3 per cent of Carbolic Acid or its homologues. On analysis of the disinfectant in question, however, it was found to contain 11.90 per cent. It was then decided to lay a charge for the illegal sale of poison, and to rely on the Regulation passed in June, 1907, for the second charge in respect of the class of bottle used. This Regulation proved defective, as it only covered "an ordinary medicine bottle," and did not apply to ordinary domestic containers as defined in the 1914 Act. Doubtless the Regulation referred to will be rescinded and a new one drafted corresponding to the section in the 1914 Act, which fortunately gives the Board greater powers than were contained in previous Poisons Acts.

Unslaked Lime as a Disinfectant.

Experiments are shortly to be made by Dr Robertson, chairman of the Victorian Board of Public Health, to test the efficacy of unslaked lime as a disinfectant in comparison with permanganate of potash and formalin. Since the outbreak of war permanganate of potash has increased in price by 500 per cent., and the desirability of finding a substitute is therefore pronounced. The test is to be made at nightsoil depots, with particular reference to the typhoid germ, and if found satisfactory it will probably be adopted at hospitals and sanatoria where typhoid and other diseases are treated. Slaked lime has formerly been used for this purpose, but its efficiency is not very high. The suggestion is now being made that the large amount of heat generated by chemical action when unslaked lime is brought into contact with water might be utilised for sterilising purposes.

Prickly Pear Pest.

ARSENIOUS CHLORIDE MANUFACTURE.

Over 20,000,000 acres are infected with the prickly pear in Queensland, much of it being otherwise good and fertile land. The Cactus Estates Limited claims to have solved the difficulty of destroying this terrible pest, and are now beginning operations on a large scale. It was explained to shareholders in the company by the chairman (Mr. J. M. Gillespie) on March 8, that by the end of the current month it was expected to have destroyed the whole of the growth on 10,000 acres, which have been leased from the Queensland Government. The first year's operations were more or less of an experimental nature. The manufacture of arsenious chloride, for which purpose works had been erected at Yarraville, had never before been attempted on a commercial scale in any part of the world, although the chemical was well known in the laboratories of chemists. Much difficulty arose in the initial state of the manufacture, owing to the necessity of having absolutely flawless castings. Sulphuric acid, vitriol, and arsenic were ingredients of the pear destructor, and leakages of gases from the pots would mean that men's lives would be at stake. By August these difficulties had been overcome, but, unfortunately, their chief chemist was found to be a German of the first rank. An Englishman had since been secured, and the works were now turning out good quantities of the arsenious chloride, at the rate of up to 12 tons a week. About 140 tons were already on the property in Queensland, besides which sales had been made at very profitable prices. Heaps of letters were being received asking to be allowed to purchase the poison, but it was intended to push on with the operations of the company itself. A constant income would be received from the sale of the chemical, but he did not care to mention the figures publicly. Dr. Jean White, who was in charge of the Queensland Government experimental station, had admitted that the company had secured the right method of treating cactus, while the inspector of cactus was also convinced. Describing the process of killing the growth, Mr. Gillespie stated that the heavy gases floated low along the ground for a mile or so from the pots, levelling the cactus to the ground.

"The Australasian Chemist and Druggist."

A statement has been made in the March issue of the *Chemist and Druggist of Australasia*, which contains an erroneous presentment of the position regarding the early history of this Journal and its predecessor, *The Australasian Chemist and Druggist*. The President of the Pharmaceutical Society has intimated that it is his intention of submitting an official statement of the facts to the annual meeting of members on March 23rd.

New South Wales.

(From Our Sydney Correspondent.)

Pharmacy Board of New South Wales.

The regular meeting of this Board was held on March 9. Mr. A. Wadsworth (President) occupied the chair, and Messrs. W. Short, Ll. P. Williams, E. E. C. Schofield, F. P. J. Gray, and T. S. Loney were present.

The Albury Hospital Dispenser.—A letter was read from the Department of Health, stating that in reply to communications they found that the Albury Hospital employed a local chemist to make up a pharmacopoeia stock mixtures, and that such mixtures would be dispensed by the matron, acting under the supervision of a medical officer. The official dispenser's duty will be to make up all the aforesaid stock mixtures, and also to prepare any special prescriptions that any medical officer may prescribe. The Department considered that no infringement of the Act was committed or proposed. Mr. Gray pointed out that the account of the meeting distinctly stated that the matron was appointed dispenser with an additional salary of £25 per annum. They must look out for the thin edge of the wedge being inserted, and they were well aware that at some hospitals the matron did a good deal more than what was stated in this case. He moved that the letter be formally received, which was carried.

Reciprocity with Tasmania.—The Secretary of the South Australian Pharmacy Board wrote, stating that they have applied in the usual way to have a regulation passed recognising the examination certificates or diplomas of the Pharmacy Board of Tasmania. The letter was received.

St. Stanislaus College wrote, asking for information re the Preliminary Examination. They desired to arrange their course of instruction so that the lads who underwent this course were equal to the Preliminary standard. It was resolved that a letter be sent to the effect that if the standard and examinations were deemed satisfactory and approved by the Preliminary examiners, the certificates would be accepted.

Final Examination.—The Examiners reported that at the Final Examination held in February last the following candidates passed in the order of merit:—W. L. Nelson, L. Malone, E. E. Bull, W. E. Jones, and J. P. Murphy. Five out of fourteen candidates.

Mr. Short said that the results at this examination were poor. Three out of the five passed men had only to take one subject, in which they had formerly failed, and of the eleven remaining only two got through.

Registration under the Pharmacy Act.—W. L. Nelson, of Goulburn; E. E. Bull, of Cheltenham; L. Malone, of Rose Bay; W. E. Jones, of Rozelle; and D. E. L. Samuell, of Sydney, having passed the Final Examination, and H. C. Scully, of Summer Hill, a pharmaceutical chemist, of Queensland, applied for registration, and it was granted. Pharmacist's Poisons Licenses were also granted to the same applicants.

Annual Poisons Licenses were granted to three storekeepers, and 15 renewals of license were granted.

Registration of Indentures.—E. G. Larkins, to W. H. A. Teale, of Kyogle, term, 3 years; R. E. Williams, to J. C. Lane, of Grafton, term, 3 years. Registration was granted.

In Lieu of Preliminary.—J. S. F. Bartlett, of North Sydney, applied to have his pass of the Preliminary Examinations, of Queensland, recognised in lieu of the New South Wales Preliminary. —Granted. D. M. Justice, of Bronte, applied to have his Intermediate Pass of the Department of Public Instruction accepted in lieu of Preliminary, he having taken all the required subjects. — Granted.

A Peculiar Case.—M. Dryen, of Sydney, again applied to have his pass certificates of the University of Adelaide accepted in lieu of Preliminary. This application had been formerly before the Board, and had been rejected. Applicant wrote to say that his passes had been accepted by the Sydney University in lieu of Matriculation, and on them he now was a medical student at the Sydney University. He desired, however, that he might have the same accepted by the Pharmacy Board, so as to enable him to become an apprentice to a pharmacist, if he so desired.

Mr. Gray pointed out that they expected their own students to pass in all the required subjects in one examination, this applicant had not done so; and as they did not desire to set a precedent they had to refuse him. But since the Sydney University was satisfied, and had admitted him as a matriculated student, he thought that they could accept the certificates and do as applicant desired, always provided that this case was not to form a precedent. A motion to this effect was seconded and carried.

Poisons Act Prosecution. — The Registrar reported that M. J. Farren, of Paddington, had been prosecuted for selling carbolic oil containing 5 per cent. of carbolic acid, he not holding a license to sell poisons. A fine of £2, and costs, was imposed.

The Coonley Medicine Co.—The Registrar laid on the table copy of proclamation prohibiting the sale of the Coonley Company's products.

Botany Lectures.—The Registrar laid on the table the time table of the Sydney University botany lectures. During the Lent term these lectures are delivered at 2 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. During the Michaelmas term on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2 p.m.

Mr. Short said that the University authorities had not yet granted their request that these lectures should be held in the mornings. Many young men would be debarred from earning their living while studying, by reason of their not being able to accept half-time employment. If the lectures were held in the morning, it would be a great convenience both to masters and to students.

Mr. Gray concurred with Mr. Short, and said that he thought a letter should be sent to the University regretting that the hours chosen were so inconvenient to pharmacists, and hoping that more suitable hours would be arranged as soon as possible.

Mr Wadsworth said he was afraid that they would not get much satisfaction out of the University in the matter. It was resolved that the letter be sent.

Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.

The regular monthly meeting of Council was held on March 9. Mr F. P. J. Gray (President) occupied the chair. There were also present:—Messrs. J. S. Loney, V. Wadsworth, J. L. McKenna, V. Rogers, H. P. Williams, E. H. C. Schofield, and W. Short.

A.P. Formulary.—A letter was read from Mr. Sidney Plowman, scientific secretary to the Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference, stating that the copies of the A.P. Formulary were nearly exhausted, and the present was the time to amend and add to the formulæ; he therefore asked for suggestions. Mr Gray said that no doubt some of the formulæ needed revising, and he knew of some pharmacists who had given the matter considerable attention. He proposed that a small committee be appointed.

Mr Wadsworth proposed that the committee consist of the President, with Mr W. V. Short and Mr Loney.

Mr Loney declined, as he could not give the matter the time and attention it required; he proposed that Mr. Schofield be a member of this committee.

Mr Schofield said that he had written on the matter, but his communications had been ignored.

Finally it was resolved that the committee consist of Messrs. F. P. J. Gray, W. Short, and E. H. C. Schofield.

Mr Gray said that he hoped members of the Council, and others, would get their suggestions in early, so that they could be thoroughly tested before being finally approved. Some of the suggestions would prove valuable, but some might be improved if they were modified.

Belgian Pharmacists' Fund.—A communication on this matter was received, and it was announced that Mr. G. G. Watkins, of Brisbane, was acting as treasurer to the fund.

Mr Forster said that £20 9s 6d had been received as contributions, to which was to be added the amount voted at last Council meeting from the Society.

Mr McKenna said that the Western Suburbs pharmacists had raised £60 for this fund, and Mr Schofield said that a similar movement was on foot among the pharmacists of the Eastern Suburbs.

Mr Short approved of the suggestion that the fund should be a Federal one, and that it should go all together, instead of every State sending its contribution separately. This was approved by the Council.

Mr Wadsworth said that he favoured only sending to really needy Belgians, quite independent of their professional status. All were equally worthy of their assistance, and he thought no distinction should be made.

Mr Loney said that they found that some men would give to their fellow professionals where they would not give to a general fund, and others again, who had given to a general fund, gave still further when they knew what a sad plight their fellow pharmacists were in in Belgium. This appeal would touch men who realised how terribly hard was the lot of the pharmacist whose stock had been destroyed or been seized by the enemy.

Dr. Foreman's Statements.—The Secretary read the statements made by Dr. Foreman at a recent meeting of the Benevolent Society, to the effect that illegal practices were glaringly common among doctors, nurses, chemists, and quacks. He thought the Council might wish to express an opinion on the matter.

Mr Wadsworth said, unfortunately, it was in a measure true. Dr. Foreman admitted that the practice of procuring abortion was carried on by the medical profession, by nurses, by chemists, and by irregular practitioners, and, honestly, they could not say that this was not the case. They deplored the fact which they were powerless to prevent. But the chemist must not be singled out as if he were the only offender. Dr. Foreman does not do this, and he ought to know in such matters.

Mr. Gray said that he was afraid that there were some grounds for the charge in former days; one of the members of their Society had been punished and struck off the register for this offence; but as far as they knew very little was done in this kind of thing at the present time.

National Insurance.—The Secretary called attention to the fact that subscriptions of five shillings had been asked for from chemists to provide a special fund in connection with the National Insurance movement.

Bills Withdrawn.—The Secretary pointed out that the Veterinary Surgeons' Bill and the Dental Practitioners' Bill introduced last session into Parliament had been withdrawn. The rights of pharmacists were not protected in either of these Bills, and there would have been a good deal of opposition to the final passing of these measures in their form as they passed the Legislative Council.

Annual Report.—The Secretary read a draft of the Annual Report to be laid before the Annual Meeting. Exception was taken to parts of the report, and the Council made alterations in the draft before authorising the same to be printed and circulated.

A Difficult Question was asked by Secretary. A member of the Society sent in a notice of motion to be moved at the annual meeting. He enclosed his subscription, which was due on the 1st January. The by-laws state that if the subscription is not paid by the first of March the member shall not be eligible to vote at the annual meeting. Now, can a member move a motion if he is not eligible to vote for the same? The member who was to second the motion was in exactly the same position.

After considerable discussion the matter was left to the hands of the President for his ruling, the common opinion being that while the late

paying of the subscription restores the member to all the rights and privileges of the Society, it does not confer on him the right to vote at the annual meeting, as that is expressly denied him by the by-laws.

Adulterated Eucalyptus Oil.

At the Redfern Police Court, on March 3rd, Harold Ringstead, of 52 Pitt-street, Redfern, was summoned for selling eucalyptus oil which was not of the nature and substance demanded by the purchaser. The sale took place on November 11, 1914.

Evidence was given that two inspectors from the Board of Health inspected defendant's premises, where he carries on the work of a manufacturer and packer of medicinal and other substances. The inspector took out of a box five bottles of Crown Brand eucalyptus oil. He took some for analysis, paying five shillings for the same. On analysis it was found that the oil consisted of an admixture of eucalyptus oil with another oil, and that there was only 50 per cent. of true eucalyptus oil in the bottles. The bottles were labelled eucalyptus oil, for use as a liniment.

Defendant said that he was not selling this oil now when questioned by the inspector at the time, but he denied saying so when giving his evidence. He said that the oil with which the genuine oil was mixed cost him more than the genuine article. The bottles that the inspector got were merely some odd bottles, and he knew nothing of them until the inspector took them off the shelf. The defendant was convicted, and fined £2, with 6s. costs, or one month's hard labour.

It is a common practice in Sydney for hawkers to go from house to house with bottled goods of a cheap character, and it has been the custom with some bottlers to sell eucalyptus oil mixed with equal parts of oil of turpentine. The Board of Health are evidently taking action to stop the practice, and all goods thus hawked will be subjected to close inspection and analysis in future.

Lysol Poisoning.

A case of poisoning with lysol accidently occurred at Penrith (N.S.W.) on February 28th. A little girl, aged 2 years and 3 months, swallowed some of the poison and quickly expired. It appears that the bottle of poison was kept in a cupboard on the washstand; the father was asleep in the room, and the child in playing about got hold of the bottle and drank some of the contents. No one saw the child open the cupboard and take the bottle out. The law provides that persons keeping poisons shall keep them in a safe place, by which it is presumed that they are intended to be kept under lock and key. Several cases of poisoning have taken place in New South Wales purely from the careless way in which poisons are kept in country households. Sometimes dangerous poisons, such as Cooper's Sheep Dip Powder or Strychnia Jam, will be kept in a cupboard along with food. Sufficient publicity has not been given to the fact that persons carelessly keeping poisons in their houses are liable to prosecution.

Smallpox at Kurri Kurri.

Dr. Armstrong, from the Central Board of Health, and Dr. Booth Clarkson, of Newcastle, paid an official visit to Kurri Kurri, to report on the smallpox outbreak recently. They reported that there had been 21 cases, and that they all were undoubtedly smallpox, and not chicken pox, as some people supposed. The visitors advised thorough vaccination throughout the whole infected area, but a lot of mischief has been done by the quantity of anti-vaccination literature from Sydney being distributed among the residents. It is proposed that if a free response be not made to the invitation to get vaccinated free of charge, the whole district be quarantined, and no unvaccinated person be allowed to leave for any other part of the State. The schools have not been closed, but picture shows and similar places of amusement are not allowed to be open.

A Strange Defamation Case.

At the District Court, Singleton (N.S.W.), on March 1, before Judge Bevan, Nurse Annie Cornelia Page, of "Carisbrook" Private Hospital, sued Dr. Reginald W. H. Maffey for £400 damages for alleged defamation.

Plaintiff alleged that defendant falsely and maliciously spoke and published the following words: "I would not take my dog there" (meaning to plaintiff's private hospital) and "She" (meaning plaintiff) "is a rotten nurse." Evidence was called to show that defendant had used his influence to prevent patients going to the hospital, and that the words complained of were employed by him. Several witnesses gave evidence that they had been inmates of the hospital, and that they were satisfied with the treatment received, and that in their opinion the hospital was properly managed.

Dr. Maffey gave evidence to the effect that he had cause to complain about the manner in which the hospital was conducted, and that his treatment of the patient was criticised, and his directions regarding them were not carried out. He denied saying that he would not send his dog there, nor did he say that Nurse Page was a rotten nurse. On one occasion she hit him with a chair, and when he had left his bag at the hospital he missed the chloroform bottle on two occasions.

Dr. A. S. Bowman gave evidence that he considered the hospital badly conducted. Nurse Page was untruthful and disloyal to the doctors. He was not satisfied with the way in which his directions were carried out.

Dr. Alexander Pentland also gave evidence that he was dissatisfied with the way in which the hospital was conducted, and that he found Nurse Page so disloyal to other doctors that he had to speak to her about it.

In spite of the medical evidence, the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, with £95 damages and costs, on the higher scale.

Chemists and Venereal Diseases.

The views of the *Bulletin* on the proposal to prohibit pharmacists from treating simple cases of venereal disease are expressed as follows in the issue of March 11:—"A side-issue seriously affecting chemists has been raised in connection with the treatment of venereal diseases in New South Wales. When the British Medical Association talked to Health Minister Flowers recently, one of the deputation, who obviously was not speaking out of his turn, suggested that it should be made a 'penal offence for a person other than a legalised practitioner to deal with a venereal case.' This proposal, which bore the innocent appearance of being merely a desire on the part of the B.M.A. to drive the quack to honest work, was promptly and earnestly 'quite agreed' to by the Minister. But the quack was only half the target on which the doctors had their guns trained. At present hundreds of cases of simple venereal disease are treated by reputable pharmacists. One Sydney chemist of good standing admits to 60 patients weekly; and he is probably quite right in claiming that if qualified pharmacists didn't treat simple cases in their early stages for a few shillings, many an indiscreet youngster wouldn't be treated at all."

The Miracle Men.

Andrew Scott Page and John William Hinton were brought before the Central Police Court, Sydney, on March 8th charged with conspiring together to cheat and defraud certain persons of divers large sums of money. The case had been twice before the court at earlier dates, and was concluded on March 8th.

It appears that the accused, not being duly qualified medical practitioners, were carrying on medical practice, and, according to statements made, attaining several remarkable results. The attention of the police was called to their proceedings, and detectives went for treatment and also to institute inquiries.

Ex-Detective Darlington said that for the last two years he had been in bad health and had been retired from the service as medically unfit. He had communication with certain constables, and subsequently visited Hinton, to whom he described his symptoms. Hinton sounded him with a stethoscope, and said that witness had catarrh of the throat and nose; he also suffered from goitre, and his liver and kidneys were affected. He was to pay 10 guineas or two guineas per month, and it would take about six months to cure him. Payment was to be made partly in advance. As the accused said he was not qualified, and could not sue for his fees. He was also told that his gastric juices were deranged. What he was really suffering from, viz., heart disease, was not detected by the accused.

A number of witnesses gave evidence as to the method of treatment and the terms of payment asked. In some cases a glass toy, which when held in the patient's hand caused the liquid in a tube to boil, was used for diagnosis purposes.

Dr. Palmer, Government medical officer, said that the glass tube with coloured liquid was like a child's toy. The mixtures prescribed by accused which he tested were practically useless.

Dr. Cooksey, of the Government Analyst's Office, said that the medicines given by accused were submitted to him for analysis. One consisted of saccharine matter, glycerine and a cinchona preparation; another was a mixture of liquorice and aloes. The first prescription was used to treat a woman with a lame foot.

Drs. F. Barrington and H. Pinhey gave evidence that they had examined patients who had been to accused and found that they were not suffering from the complaints for which accused professed to treat them.

Other medical evidence of a similar character was given, and accused were committed for trial at the Quarter Sessions to be held on April 6th. Bail was allowed.

Poisoning Cases.

During the last few weeks there have been an unusually large number of poisoning cases in New South Wales. The majority of them have been with some carbolic preparation. On February 22 Percy Combers (26) was found in an unconscious condition at Katoomba Falls. He was removed to the Penrith Hospital, where he died, from the effects of poison. On February 26 William Garrett (78) was found at his residence, Darlington, in an unconscious condition. He was removed to Prince Alfred Hospital. The cause of death was poisoning. On March 5 the City Coroner conducted an inquiry into the cause of death of Frederick Fletcher (19), who died at the Marrickville Hospital. Dr. Palmer stated that the cause of death was arsenical poisoning. R. C. Gosling gave evidence to the effect that deceased was at a picnic with himself and his family; he had a bottle of ginger beer to drink. The bottle was a Kops ginger beer, and the liquid appeared to have a pink sediment. On seeing this deceased said, in joke, "I hope this is not poison." On their way home witness, his son and daughter all felt unwell; Fletcher was very ill, and subsequently was removed to the hospital, where he died. Arthur Kench gave evidence that he found the bottle cleansing machine at Kops factory very imperfect, and Frederick Chilvers, the manager, admitted that when the inspector visited the factory there were 10 out of 18 jets which would not work. He did not know how the poison got into the ginger beer, unless some one deliberately put it there. The coroner returned a verdict of accidental death from poisoning, adding that the bottle must have contained poison and been imperfectly washed. On March 7 Ernest Cohen drank a quantity of poison by mistake, and was removed to Sydney Hospital, where he died, and on the same day Massie M'Farlane (2), of Surry Hills, knocked over a

bottle of poison and drank some of the contents, also burning herself with the fluid severely about the face, neck, and chest. She was admitted into Sydney Hospital in a very low condition, and subsequently died. On March 8 James Lindsay (50) poisoned himself and died at Sydney Hospital. The arresting constable said that after taking the poison deceased tried to cut his throat, but was prevented by him. On the same date William Cameron (29) died at Prince Alfred Hospital. He was found at his residence, Campsie, suffering from poisoning, and was speedily removed to the hospital. A letter was found at his residence in which he expressed his determination to commit suicide.

With one exception, these cases are stated to be suicides or accident with carbolic preparations, and, as these compounds are sold in spite of the law by every little grocer round and about Sydney, it is not to be wondered that people are careless about storing the same out of harm's way, and can readily get as much as they want from the nearest little shop if they wish to end their days. The attention of the Pharmacy Board has been repeatedly drawn to this matter, but no steps have been taken to enforce the Act which deals with the sale of preparations of carbolic acid containing more than 3 per cent.

The Walter and Eliza Hall Fellowship.

The Walter and Eliza Hall Travelling Fellowship at the Sydney University, as instituted by the Senate, has for its object the promoting of medical science and practice throughout Australia, by enabling highly qualified graduates to obtain special experience abroad. The sum of £150 will be paid to the holder on leaving Australia, £100 after six months, and £100 after 12, 18, and 24 months respectively, £150 after 30 months, and £200 after 36 months. The tenure of the fellowship is for three years, and the third year must be spent at the Sydney University, engaged upon work recommended by the Faculty.

General.

Mr. J. G. Lynch has opened a new pharmacy at Haberfield.

Mr. S. Harvey has purchased the pharmacy of Mr. Whyte, of Mosman.

Mr. Emert, of Lithgow, has opened a new pharmacy at Croydon Park.

Mr. O. Leggo has purchased the pharmacy of Mr. Nicholas, of Forest Lodge.

Mr. G. E. Nicholas, formerly of Forest Lodge, has purchased a pharmacy at Temora.

Mr. Alva Weymouth, formerly of the Ashfield United Friendly Societies' Dispensary, has purchased the pharmacy of Mr. Moromey, of Ashfield.

Messrs. May and Burgess are opening a new pharmacy at Manly. Manly seems to be the happy hunting ground for pharmacists, though there is an impression that there are more chemists' shops in Manly than can be expected to yield a good return for the money invested.

Victoria.

The New Pharmacopœia.

Victorian Conference to Fix Date of Adoption.

At the request of the Honorable the Chief Secretary, a conference of representative medical practitioners and pharmacists was held at the College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, on February 24 at 11 a.m., with a view of recommending to the Government a suitable date for bringing the new British Pharmacopœia into force in Victoria.

The following delegates attended:—Dr. Edward Robertson, chairman of the Board of Public Health; Dr. A. A. Joske, president of the Medical Board of Victoria; Dr. Ramsay Webb, member of the Council of the Victorian Branch of the British Medical Association; Mr. Charles E. Towl, president of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, Mr. A. R. Bailey (Hon. Treasurer), and Mr. C. L. Butchers (Secretary). An apology was received from Dr. A. V. Anderson, president of the British Medical Association (Victorian Branch).

On the motion of Dr. Robertson, seconded by Dr. Joske, Mr. Towl was voted to the chair.

Correspondence from the various States was read by the Secretary, who also outlined the course of procedure in dealing with the 1898 edition.

Mr. Bailey submitted a resume of some of the more important alterations in the new edition.

Dr. Webb asked what was the chief reason for delaying the adoption of the work.

Dr. Joske said that he understood that pharmacists and wholesale drug houses desired a few months' grace to dispose of stocks and to prepare for the new standards. Labels, in many cases, would require to be altered.

Dr. Webb pointed out that the adoption of the metric system in connection with the formulæ must be seriously considered. He thought the conference should make some recommendation that the metric system should be used as far as possible.

The President said that so far as pharmacists were concerned, the metric system did not present any difficulties. There might be some trouble in securing sets of weights and measures, but he understood this would be overcome if a few months' grace were allowed.

Dr. Robertson said that medical students were also taught the metric system. There seemed little doubt that in the next edition the metric system would be made compulsory for the doses also.

Dr. Joske suggested the desirability of an official digest being prepared and sent to all physicians and pharmacists.

The Secretary laid on the table a schedule of the principal alterations which had been prepared by Dr. Sidney Plowman, and published in the *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy*.

At the request of the Conference, Dr Plowman consented to attend the meeting.

Dr Joske moved, Dr Robertson seconded:—

1. That in view of the important alterations made in dosages and strengths in the new Pharmacopœia, it is very desirable that an official intimation of these changes should be forwarded to every medical practitioner and every registered pharmacist practising in Victoria.

2. That the Chief Secretary be asked to approve of 2000 copies of such digest being printed by the Government Printer, as an official paper, for circulation as recommended in Resolution 1.

Dr Joske said that if Dr. Plowman and Mr. Bailey could see their way to collaborate in drawing up a digest of the alterations the conference would have every confidence in the result.

Dr Robertson said that he felt sure the compilation could not be in better hands.

Dr. Plowman said he would be pleased to undertake the work if the conference so desired.

Mr. Bailey said it would also give him pleasure to co-operate with Dr. Plowman. He asked on what lines the conference would like the digest to be prepared.

Dr Webb said that he thought the principal alterations should be embodied in the synopsis. An extension on the lines of the table prepared by Dr Plowman would meet the case. He was quite prepared to leave the matter in the hands of the two gentlemen referred to. He moved:—

That Dr Sidney Plowman, F.R.C.S. (Eng.), and Mr A. R. Bailey be requested to collaborate and prepare a digest of the alterations which it is deemed advisable should be prominently brought under notice.

Dr Joske seconded the motion, which was carried.

Dr Webb advocated strongly the adoption of the metric system.

Dr Robertson concurred, but could the conference do anything to hasten the matter.

The President thought that if a recommendation was made by the conference and printed in the synopsis it would have some weight.

Mr Bailey said that care should be exercised in this matter. The onus would be placed on the pharmacist if any mistake occurred.

The President pointed out that at the present time the pharmacist was responsible if a prescription was wrongly dispensed. It was his duty to detect errors.

Dr Robertson said that there would be no difficulty with the younger medical men, who were taught the metric system during their course. They must make up their minds that the metric system had to come. After all, was the metric system so difficult that they should not learn it?

Mr Bailey explained that he was not afraid of the metric system, but he saw the possibility of great difficulty in getting the public to understand it. People were accustomed to the "spoonful" dose that it would take a long time to get them into the way of using the new measures.

Dr Joske moved, Dr. Robertson seconded:—

That the Conference strongly recommends the adoption of the metric system in writing prescriptions, and that such recommendation be embodied in the official synopsis previously authorised.

Carried.

Dr. Robertson asked if ethics were taught at the College of Pharmacy?

Dr Plowman said that they were to some extent.

The President said that the desirability of imparting instruction on this subject could not be over-estimated. Pharmaceutical organisations were constantly endeavouring to eliminate the unscrupulous pharmacist. He believed that at the present time the ethical standard was being greatly improved. The absence of adequate penal powers was the chief drawback.

Dr Plowman said that the Lectorial Board of the College was now meeting, and if the conference desired it he would bring the matter before it.

The President said that if Dr. Plowman would do this something in the direction indicated might be done. It was not within the scope of the conference to pass a resolution on the subject, but Dr. Plowman could convey the feeling of the members present on the subject to the Lectorial Board.

The question of fixing a date for the new Pharmacopœia to come into force was then considered.

The President said that the Pharmacy Board had decided to examine candidates in the new B.P. at the December examination.

Dr. Webb said he favoured January 1, 1916, as the most suitable date to bring the new edition into force. Time should be allowed to dispose of stocks. The war might also make it difficult to meet the requirements of the new edition.

Dr. Joske favoured 1st September, 1915. Mr. Bailey said that the latter date would meet the wishes of pharmacists.

Dr. Robertson moved, Dr. Joske seconded:—

That the first day of September, 1915, be the date proclaimed for officially bringing the British Pharmacopœia, 1914, into force in Victoria.

Carried.

It was decided to ask the Government to gazette the Proclamation three times, namely—(1) immediately after the approval of the Governor in Council was obtained; (2) early in June, and (3) earlier just prior to the first of September.

After an informal discussion on the A.P.F., proprietary preparations, and the abolition of the use of the tea-spoon, dessert-spoon, and table-spoon in indicating doses, the conference adjourned.

British Pharmacopoeia Act 1898.

SUBSTITUTION OF BRITISH PHARMACOPOEIA 1914.

PROCLAMATION.

By His Excellency the Honorable Sir Arthur Lyulph Stanley, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George; Governor of the State of Victoria and its Dependencies in the Commonwealth of Australia, &c., &c., &c.

I, THE Governor of the State of Victoria in the Commonwealth of Australia, do hereby declare that, pursuant to the provisions of section 3 of the *British Pharmacopoeia Act* 1898,

WEDNESDAY, THE 1ST DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1915,

be the date on which the *British Pharmacopoeia* 1914, shall have force in Victoria, and shall be substituted for the *British Pharmacopoeia* 1898.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the State of Victoria, at Melbourne, this third day of March, in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and fifteen, and in the fifth year of the reign of His Majesty King George V.

(L.S.) A. L. STANLEY.

By His Excellency's Command,

H. S. W. LAWSON,
For Chief Secretary.

GOD SAVE THE KING!

Poisons Act Administration.

Sale of Hypnotic and Narcotic Drugs.

At the last Pharmacy Board meeting, Mr. Bailey mentioned that there was some doubt as to whether the Regulation restricting the sale of certain narcotics and hypnotics to a doctor's order was still in force, as the schedule was not included in the recent Proclamation. The President said that the Regulation had not been repealed. It had been hoped that Mr. Justice Cussen might see his way to include it in the consolidated Act as Part III. of the 2nd Schedule, but this suggestion had not been adopted for various reasons. This, however, does not make the Regulation any less binding, as all Regulations are deemed to be part of the Act. Chlorodyne and Laudanum are not included in the Regulation, and may, therefore, be sold without a doctor's order. The following is the schedule at present in force:—

Not to be delivered (whether in pursuance of a sale or otherwise) except on the written prescription or order of a duly qualified medical practitioner.

Chloral Hydrate and solutions and preparations thereof;

Cocaine and its salts and all preparations;

Diethyl Barbituric acid and other alkyl, aryl, and metallic derivative of barbituric acid, whether described as Veronal, Proponal, Medinal, or by any other trade name, mark, or designation, and all poisonous Urethanes and Ureides;

Heroin and its salts;

Morphine and its salts;

Paraldehyde;

Sulphonal and its homologues, whether described as Trional, Tetronal, or by any other trade name, mark, or designation

The provisions of the above Regulation do not apply to the sale or delivery of liniments, ointments, or other preparations which are prepared for external use only, or any of the enumerated poisons used as ingredients in veterinary medicines, provided that such liniments, ointments, preparations, or medicines are delivered (in pursuance of a sale or otherwise) in good faith and not in evasions or attempted evasions of the Regulation, or to the sale or delivery of any of the poisons mentioned in the regulation to registered dentists, or to persons whose names have been recorded by the Dental Board of Victoria under the provisions of the Dentists Acts in the ordinary course of their business, and upon the delivery of a written order to the seller signed by the person requiring such poison.

A statement has been made that Laudanum will automatically go into Part I. when the B.P., 1914, becomes official in Victoria. Such is not the case. Laudanum is specifically included in Part II., and, although it contains a percentage of morphine, which would bring it within Part I. under ordinary circumstances, it remains a Part II. poison until the Board deletes it from Part II. In any case, the new Pharmacopœia does not affect the position. Preparations of opium containing one per cent. or more of morphine are in Part I., unless specifically included in Part II. Laudanum is included in Part II., although it at present contains one per cent. of morphine, and the increase in strength provided for in the new B.P. does not alter this principle.

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

The monthly meeting of the Board was held on March 10.

Present.—The President (Mr. C. E. Towl), in the chair, and Messrs. Bailey, Buckhurst, Fleay, Gulliver, Jewkes and Sayer.

Correspondence.

Letters inwards Nos. 96 to 104 were minuted, and included the following:—

Chief Secretary, notifying arrangements made re Pharmacopœia Conference. Similar letter to B.M.A., asking that delegates might be appointed.

Health Department, re articles forwarded for analysis.

A. Gamson, Ararat, intimating that apprenticeship indentures must be registered within three months of date of execution, and that they could not be dated prior to the date the Preliminary Examination was passed.

Wholesale druggists, conveying resolution of Board re sale of strychnine.

W. Coughlan, Bullarto, notifying that he required to take out a Poison Licence to sell Lysol and Chlorodyne.

Warrnambool Technical School, asking to further defer its proposed Pharmacy class.

Rewards.

Pharmacy Board of South Australia, intimating that the Board intended to co-operate with Laboratory on an examination basis.

H. M. Hartel, Portland, asking whether Chloralvole and Morphia tablets could only be sold on a doctor's order. He was informed that Chloralvole did not come under the Regulation, but that Morphia tablets could only legally be supplied on the order of a doctor.

Prahran Medical Association (Victoria Branch), notifying appointment of delegates to Pharmacopœia Conference. Also stating that the complaint that a doctor in a country district was carrying on a chemist's business, contrary to the Medical Act, was being inquired into. In two other instances where pharmacists were infringing the Medical Act Part III. by treating patients in a private room attached to their pharmacy, the Association desired the Board to institute proceedings. Action deferred to next meeting.

John H. Sampson, Fred Cheshire, junr., and T. B. Lester notified their absence in consequence of having accepted positions in connection with the Expeditionary Forces. Leave of absence was granted in each case.

Metropolitan Chemists' Association and South Suburban Chemists' Association, conveying resolutions thanking the Board for opposing the proposed annual practising fee.

Mrs. Annie Nicholls, Rushworth, applying for extended permit to enable her to realise the business of her late husband, Mr. Robt. Nicholls. Permit granted for six months from March 10.

The Sale of Strychnine.

Letters were received from Messrs. Daerdin and Sainsbury, Felton, Grimwade and Co. and Rocke, Tompsitt and Co., acknowledging receipt of the communication conveying resolution of the Board re the sale of strychnine, and intimating that the terms of the resolution would be given effect to. In future uncolored strychnine would only be sold to pharmacists. Special instructions had also been given to the staff that great care was to be exercised in future regarding the sale of strychnine to other than pharmacists. The President said that the Board appreciated the action of the wholesalers in this matter. Further correspondence from pharmacists on the subject was also read. In one case a pharmacist desired to know whether rabbit inspectors were allowed to sell strychnine to land owners. Information was also asked whether pharmacists could supply the secretary of a Rabbit League with quantities, and if such secretary could legally distribute the strychnine to members of the League. Mr. Jeykes said he thought the Board should ascertain the exact position, which it was of importance to pharmacists to know. He moved that legal advice on the subject be obtained. Mr. Sayer, in seconding the motion, said the Act was not clear on the point. It was very desirable that country pharmacists should know how they stood in the regard. The motion was carried.

Recognition of Schools of Pharmacy.

The matter was further considered. Bendigo School of Mines wrote that they were not conducting a pharmacy class this year, and did not therefore require recognition.

Warrnambool Technical School was asked for further information. As this had not been furnished the application for recognition was postponed. Ballarat School of Mines asked to be recognised. Approval given. It was also resolved that the pharmacy students should be compelled to sit for the examination in Chemistry Grade I. and Botany Grade I. Resolved that the Board approved of the proposal in the interests of the students themselves, but that such examination would not exempt the students from passing the Board's Intermediate Examination.

Registration.

The following applicants were registered:—John F. Blackburn, Hindmarsh (Final Exam. Vict., Dec., 1914); Walter H. Gross, Glen Waverley (Cert. Ph. Soc., Gt. Brit., Feb., 1880); Wm. J. Balmer, Collingwood (Cert. Ph. Soc., Ireland, Jan., 1913). Certificates of Identity were issued to J. F. Blackburn and Stanley M. Nye for reciprocity purposes.

Apprenticeship Indentures.

The following were registered:—Hugh Meallin, Moonee Ponds, to F. R. Plummer, Perth; Gene for E. Perry to F. J. Perry, Omeo; John W. Carnie to R. W. Dunn, Aberdeen. Registrar reported that Messrs. Meallin and Carnie's indentures were re-registrations in Victoria. They had already served their apprenticeship elsewhere, but were desirous of going through the Victorian curriculum.

Poisons' Licenses Granted.—

W. M. James, Murrayville; F. W. Petch, Broadford.

Pharmacopœia Conference.—

Registrar reported result of conference re new British Pharmacopœia. Board approved of recommendation suggesting 1st September, 1915, as date on which the new B.P. would come into force in Victoria, and also of decision to issue official synopsis to any pharmacist in business.

March Examinations.—

Following reports were received and adopted:—

Preliminary Examination (Melbourne, Ararat, Warrnambool and Bendigo).—Twenty-one candidates entered, eight passed, four qualified for single subjects, and nine failed. Passes—V. A. Gleeson, Warrnambool (Honors 80 per cent.) Examiners reported: "Papers of very high merit. Gained every possible mark in Arithmetic. English papers one of the best ever included in a Preliminary." Ada F. Brotchie, W. R. Chang, A. Abbott, A. J. Broberg, D. W. Lendon and P. M. Balding. Partial Passes—L. J. Brotchie (eligible to take Latin and Algebra as single subjects), C. C. Bailey (Latin), F. B. Nurnberg (Arithmetic), R. K. McDonald (English).

The English Paper.—

The Melbourne candidates complained of length of English paper. Referred to Examiner, who [illegible] as follows:

"I do not think there are any points in the appeal signed by the Melbourne candidates for consideration in examining the English paper on the ground of excessive length.

"The appellants know very well that they are not expected to answer all the questions, but that 50 or 60 per cent. will suffice for a pass. They say, 'It is the students' aim to do the whole paper to the best of his ability, but owing to the length of the paper we had to do our work rather hurriedly.' The answer is that they should not attempt to do the whole paper hurriedly, but should rather aim at doing a fair proportion carefully and well.

"It should be an Examiner's aim to set a fairly comprehensive paper, in which every important branch of the subject is represented, and the Examiner at the Preliminary claims that the points to which he gives prominence are intrinsically important, have a leading place in all public examinations in Elementary English, and are such that none could be omitted without impairing the value of the paper as an English test.

"It must be remembered that in any company of students there will always be a few who are constitutionally or habitually slow and unready. But these cannot be allowed to set the pace for the rest, a certain amount of alert thinking and ready execution being expected of all well-prepared candidates.

"To put the matter to a practical issue: though no change was made in marking on this occasion, the result of the Examination shows that the length of the paper could not have been in any way prohibitive of those who sat for the English Examination, a percentage of 82 were returned as passing, and of these a fair number worked practically the whole paper."

Examiner's report adopted and ordered to be printed.

Final Examination.—

Nine entered, two passed and one obtained partial pass. Passes—Emily I. Craig and Chas. Phillips. Ruby W. Beddome eligible to take Section I. paper and Section II. Oral at subsequent examination. Report received and adopted.

Report of Prosecution.—

Registrar reported that E. J. Hooper and Co., grocers, Geelong, had been fined £5, with £6/13/6 costs, for selling Phenyle containing 11.96 per cent. of Phenolic compounds. A second charge had been dismissed with £1/1/- costs. The solicitor advised that he was of opinion that the magistrate's decision was right, and that the Regulation made in 1907 was defective, and should be amended to bring it into conformity with the 1914 Act. Resolved that a fresh Regulation be drafted.

Consolidation of Poisons Regulations.—

Mr. Bailey said that he thought the whole of the Poisons Regulations should be revised and issued in a consolidated form. Mr. Fleay supported the proposal. It would greatly help pharmacists who were desirous of complying with the Board's requirements. Resolved that the President, Mr. Bailey and the Registrar be appointed a sub-committee to revise the regulations.

Impending Prosecutions.—

It was reported that two cases would be heard at Loch for infringements of the Poisons Act on March 17. A further Phenyle case would be taken at Carlton before the end of the month, and that a prosecution of some importance under the Medical Act was also ready to be launched. Authority was given to the Registrar to issue informations in these cases.

Inspector's Reports.—

The Board's Inspector reported having visited Poowong, Loch, Daylesford, Bullarto and Lyonville during the month. He had secured evidence against a storekeeper at Loch. In the other districts he had not been able to detect any irregularities except at Bullarto, where a local storekeeper had undertaken to apply for a Poisons Licence.

Analyst's Reports.—

Several reports were received from the Government Medico-Legal Analyst. These were considered in committee. Instructions were given that further inquiries should be made in connection with one of the samples reported on.

Apprentice in Charge of Business.—

A complaint that a country pharmacist had left his pharmacy in charge of his apprentice was investigated. The inquiries made failed to reveal any breach of the law, as the pharmacist had made arrangements with a neighbouring chemist to dispense prescriptions and sell poisons during his absence, which in all only amounted to 20 working hours.

Alleged Imposition.—

Registrar reported that he had made further inquiries regarding a case of alleged imposition in which a pharmacist had charged £2 for two bottles of medicine. The pharmacist in question was out of the State, but his attorney had communicated with him by cable, and had advised him to make a refund. The patient intended taking action unless a refund was made. Matter postponed until next meeting pending receipt of amount to be refunded.

Pharmacist Before the Board.—

Mr. ——, pharmacist, attended before the Board in response to the summons issued by the President under the powers vested in him by the Medical Act. He produced evidence with regard to a prescription dispensed by his registered assistant concerning which a complaint had been made to the Board. He recognised the duty of the Board in endeavouring to see that adequate precautions were taken by pharmacists to protect the public. In this case, however, the prescription was a most difficult one to dispense, and had subsequently to be altered by the prescriber. It contained an incompatible. He was absent when it was dispensed. His registered assistant submitted a statement setting out the manipulation employed in dispensing the prescription. Mr. Buckhurst moved that the explanation be accepted as satisfactory. Mr. Jewkes seconded the motion. The President said that in asking Mr. —— to attend the Board had only been actuated with a desire to exercise its duties

impartially. The complaint was a serious one, and had the explanation not been regarded as satisfactory further action would have had to be taken. Mr. Buckhurst's motion was carried. Mr. ——, after thanking the Board for giving him an opportunity of stating his case, then retired.

General.

After dealing with other business in committee, the Hon. Treasurer submitted the monthly financial statement, accounts were passed for payment, and the Board adjourned at 1.15 p.m.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia.

The monthly meeting of the Council was held on March 3. Present.—The President, Mr. A. R. Bailey (in the chair), and Messrs. Cossar, Francis, Gabriel, Kernot, Imes, Leete, Owen, Rankin and Taylor. Apologies for non-attendance from Messrs. Champion and Pickford.

Mr. E. F. Gryst, President of the Pharmacy Board of South Australia, was also present at the meeting by invitation, and was welcomed by the President, on behalf of the Council.

Correspondence.

Chief Inspector of Factories, in reference to the Saturday half-holiday, intimating that it would be necessary to have a fresh Regulation made dealing with all the hours of closing in the metropolitan district, and that a Regulation dealing with Saturday afternoon only could not be made.

Dr. Sidney Plowman, Scientific Secretary of the Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference, asking the Council to request the Formulary Committee to forward any recommendations regarding the revision of the Australasian Pharmaceutical Formulary as early as convenient, also drawing attention to the forthcoming meeting of the Conference at Hobart in January, 1916. Dr. Plowman asked the Council to endeavour to secure papers of pharmaceutical or scientific interest to be read at the conference. It was resolved to ask the Formulary Committee to meet and consider the question of new formulæ.

Dr. Sidney Plowman, Hon. Secretary of the Lectorial Board, stating that the Board had considered the recommendation of the Pharmacopœia Conference, regarding the teaching of pharmaceutical ethics, and that he was instructed to state that up to the present year, Mr. Turner had dealt with this subject in his lectures, and that Mr. Stanton would follow the same course in connection with the evening classes.

Mr. W. D. Williams, Caulfield, suggesting that the Council should institute a class for chemists in dressing and stitching of wounds, male nursing and hypodermic work. It was resolved that the Council could not undertake this work except in conjunction with the St. John's Ambulance Association. It was quite willing to grant accommodation for the class and to facilitate it in every way, but for various reasons it was advisable for the Society to conduct the class itself.

Mr. A. Sanderson-Edmunds, Sydney, wrote asking if he could become a member of the Society. He already belonged to the New South Wales Society. To be informed that membership of the Society was open to every registered chemist.

Victorian Optical Committee, forwarding financial statement of Optical Class, showing balance in hand of £14 12s.

Mr. F. E. Guenther, Numurkah, wrote asking if the Society's analyst undertook the examinations of samples of water. To be informed that the arrangement made with the analyst was in regard to drugs and medicines, but that no doubt, if Mr. Guenther communicated with Mr. Koch, he would undertake the work.

Election of New Members.

The following new members were elected:—Full member—J. W. Florance, Camperdown; Associate Member—Ruby W. Beddome, Melbourne.

Nominations for membership were received from Messrs. W. G. Piper, B. L. Stanton, A. M. Steinthal, A. S. Edmunds, and H. F. Ackary; but as these had not been lodged within the period prescribed by the Articles of Association, it was resolved to hold a special meeting of the Council on March 23, prior to the annual meeting, in order to deal with them.

Belgian Pharmacists Relief Fund.

A large amount of correspondence from the different States, and members of the Society, on this subject were read, including circulars which had been issued by the Pharmaceutical Societies of New South Wales and Queensland. The President said that since the last meeting he had communicated with the various Societies on behalf of the Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference, suggesting that a fund for distressed Belgian pharmacists should be raised by the Pharmaceutical Society in each State, and that such fund should afterwards be consolidated into a Federal fund and forwarded to the Hon. Treasurer of the Conference, Mr. George Watkins, Brisbane. He was pleased to be able to say that the Queensland Society and members of the Council had subscribed nearly £50 as a start for the fund; in New South Wales the Society had donated £25, as well as a contribution from individual members of the Council; the Ballarat pharmacists had forwarded £15 15s., whilst the South Suburban Association had raised a sum exceeding £30. He thought that the claims of such a fund should impress themselves on members of the Council, and he trusted that something substantial might be done in the matter. The Secretary said that he had in hand £18 18s., which had been voluntarily forwarded to him towards the fund. Mr. Owen moved that the sum of £50 be voted from the Benevolent Fund to the Belgian Pharmacists Relief Fund, and that a circular be issued inviting contributions to the fund from pharmacists and their assistants. Mr. Gabriel seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. The President said that it might be well to emphasise the fact that contributions might be paid in one lump sum or spread over three months. He hoped to see £2000 contributed by pharmacists throughout the Commonwealth.

Second Lecture Room.

On the motion of Mr. Owen, seconded by Mr. Kernot, it was resolved that the President and Vice-President be appointed to confer with the Lectorial Board in reference to furnishing the second lecture room at the College, and that the sum of £75 be allocated for this purpose.

Mr. Shillinglaw's Allowance.

On the motion of Mr. Imes, seconded by Mr. Leete, it was resolved that the allowance to Mr. Shillinglaw be continued as heretofore, for a further period of six months.

Donations.

Mr. T. E. Turner presented to the College a comprehensive prescription book, containing a large number of original prescriptions, also a mounted specimen of an Aconite plant in flower, which he had cultivated. It was resolved that a letter of thanks be forwarded to Mr. Turner.

Library.

It was decided to purchase for the library a copy of the Book of Pharmacopocias which had just been published in London.

The Hon. Treasurer submitted the monthly financial statement, and after a large amount of routine business had been dealt with the Council adjourned.

Metropolitan Chemists' Association.

City Section.

The monthly meeting was held at Champion's Queen's Arms Hotel, on Wednesday, March 10th.

Present.—Messrs. White (in the chair), Gulliver, Owen, Wasley, Towl, Sayle, N. Pleasance, Tait, Lock, and the Secretary.

Apologies.—From Messrs. Francis, Blake, Murphy and Wilkinson.

Saturday Afternoon Closing.—Mr. Sayle moved that no action be taken by this section at present. Mr. Gulliver seconded. Mr. Towl moved as an amendment that we close between the hours of 1.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. This was seconded by Mr. Owen. The chairman put the amendment, which was lost by 3 Yes, 6 No. The chairman then put the motion, which was carried by 6 Yes, 3 No.

Mr. Towl then gave notice of motion that at the next meeting of this section the question be reopened for discussion, and that an effort be made to get a full attendance of members. Seconded by Mr. Owen.

Albert Park Members.—Mr. Boully's note was received, and it was not considered possible to take Mr. Boully in as a member of the City Section, other than as an honorary member. It was decided that the Central Committee take up this matter with the view of forming a section in Albert Park.

Re Spirol Labels.—These were getting short, and the Secretary read a letter from Mr. Leete, of the Sigma Co., to say that his company, on account of the shortage of Acid Acetosal, was not yet prepared to take over the "Spirol."

It was moved and seconded that the Secretary have another 10,000 printed.

The price of "Aspirin" Tablets was further discussed. Some members were charging 1/3, others were charging 1/6. No action was taken.

Central Committee.

The nineteenth meeting of the Central Committee was held at the College of Pharmacy on Thursday, March 11th, at 10 a.m.

Present.—Messrs. Bartleman (in the chair), Cowper, May, Hill, Lee, Sayle, Wasley and the Secretary (A. L. J. Peters). Apology from Mr. Jones, junr.

Re Mr. Boully, Albert Park.—It was moved and seconded that Mr. Boully's application to become a member of the Association be accepted, and that a further attempt be made to get a section of the Albert Park and St. Kilda district formed.

Saturday Afternoon Closing.—Mr. Lee, of the South Suburban Association, said that his section requested the closing of pharmacies in the metropolitan area become law, and that the hours for closing be 1.15 p.m. to 6.15 p.m. Mr. Lee thought that there was a danger of the movement coming to nothing, as there was such a diversity of opinion over the hours of closing. He thought a compromise should be made, making the closing hours 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., and that a personal canvass should be made to get a majority of the chemists to sign such a proposal.

City Section.—Mr. Sayle said that his section carried a motion to oppose the movement at present, and that notice of motion had been given to discuss the question fully at the next meeting, and that an effort would be made to get a full attendance of members.

Richmond Section.—Mr. May said that Saturday afternoon closing had been satisfactorily established in his section, the hours for closing being 1—6.30 p.m.

Northern Section.—Mr. Cowper reported that a majority was in favour of closing for the afternoon, but the question of the hours had not been fixed.

Eastern Suburbs.—Mr. Hill said that a motion had been passed in favour of closing Saturday afternoons between 1 and 6.30 p.m.

Mr. Lee moved that papers for petition be drawn up by this Association for the closing of pharmacies between 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Cowper.

Mr. May moved as an amendment, seconded by Mr. Hill, that the motion be as Mr. Lee's, but that the hours be from 1 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

On the votes the amendment was lost by 2 in favour and 5 against. The motion was then put by the chairman, and this was lost by 2 in favour and 5 against. It was moved and seconded that the proposal be further discussed by the sections.

Alteration of Rules.—According to his notice, Mr. Bartleman moved that the quorum of the Central Committee be reduced from 7 members to 5 members (Rule 4). This was seconded by Mr. May, and carried.

Reports from Sections.—Mr Lee said that his section had discussed the Amended Poisons Act. Last year Schedule Part 3 dealt with Hypnotic Drugs, which could only be supplied on the written order of a doctor; there is now no part 3, and that these drugs are now in the second scheduled part. He said that the matter had been left in Mr Bailey's hands to enquire into. Delegates were recommended to bring up this matter for discussion at their next sectional meeting.

Substitution.—Mr May brought up a matter of substitution in dispensing. What he wanted to know was whether a chemist was justified, if he got a prescription for Pill Blaud to dispense Tabloid Pill Blaud. He thought this was a matter for discussion by the sections.

V. L. J. PETERS, Hon. Gen. Sec.

South Suburban Chemists' Association.

Annual Smoke Social.

The Annual Smoke Social of the South Suburban Chemists' Association was held in the Arcade Hall, Chapel-street, Prahran, on March 3. In the absence, through illness, of the President, Mr. J. C. Pickford, the chair was occupied by the Vice-president, Mr. T. V. C. Sayle. There was an attendance of over fifty, including representatives from the different suburban sections and others connected with official pharmacy.

During the evening an enjoyable musical programme was rendered by Messrs. W. Mercer, T. E. Turner, O. Smith, Geo. May, and R. W. Maxwell. Mr. Fred. Lee, Hon. Secretary, made excellent arrangements for the enjoyment of those present.

PRESENTATION TO MR. COCHRAN.

After the usual loyal toast had been proposed by the chairman, and heartily responded to, Mr. Rankin said he had a pleasant duty to perform, and that was to hand to Mr. J. W. Cochran, their late Secretary, a silver-mounted walking-stick, inscribed, "J. W. Cochran, from the South Suburban Chemists' Association for services rendered 3/3/15." Mr. Cochran was one of the finest men they had. He was the leading spirit in the Association; and but for his labours it would never have been kept together. He felt sure every member was appreciative of the good work Mr Cochran had done. The little memento would not only be ornamental, but would be useful in bringing the young Cochrans to order when they required it. (Applause.)

Mr Cochran, who was well received, said that he hoped the little he had been able to do for pharmacy would be the means of keeping the Association together. It meant a good deal to him to know that he had their good wishes and esteem. He had not done more than his duty; all had helped. He was glad to see a growing tendency in the direction of helping each other. How different it was to the spirit which prevailed twenty years ago. He thanked them all for their kindness and for the spirit which prompted them to present him with so useful a memento of the pleasant time he had had as their executive officer. (Applause.)

THE BELGIAN FUND AND INCIDENTALLY "KINDRED SOCIETIES."

Mr. A. R. Bailey said that he had been asked to propose the toast of kindred Societies, but the thought that was uppermost in his mind at the present time was the appeal which was being made on behalf of the distressed Belgian pharmacists. He felt he need not say a single word about the merit of this appeal. They all saw the necessity of it. It only now remained for them to do their duty in respect to it. Upon the pharmacists of the Commonwealth was cast the moral obligation of contributing a sum of money which would restore, as far as was possible, the material and mental welfare of their brave Belgian brethren. Everyone should show that spirit of liberality and human kindness which made the whole world akin. In every State the Pharmaceutical Societies were organising an appeal. At a future date the amounts received would be consolidated in an Australian fund through the medium of the Australian Pharmaceutical Conference. In Queensland they had already contributed over £50, and since then a circular had been sent out to individual pharmacists asking for their financial co-operation. In New South Wales the Council of the Society had made a donation from its funds, and at a meeting held that morning their own Pharmaceutical Society had passed the sum of £50 as its contribution to this fund. A week or two ago, at a meeting of the South Surburban Association, the twenty-two members present promised over £30. Their Ballarat brethren had contributed £15 15s., and Mr. Butchers had already received over £18 18s. before the appeal was launched. In a few days they would receive a circular on the subject, and he asked them to contribute to the best of their ability. They might not see their way to give all they intended to in one lump sum, so it was proposed to ask that a first instalment be sent, and that a promise be given to forward further amounts on the first of April, May, and June. Throughout the English-speaking dominions, these appeals were being made. Great Britain, Canada, South Africa, and the United States were all doing their share. It was proposed to ask the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain to distribute the fund, and he felt sure that through this medium the money subscribed would be put to the best use.

Speaking more particularly to the toast, he desired to compliment the various Associations on the good work they were doing. There was still scope for future effort. Stocks of the A.P.F. were exhausted, and it would be necessary to prepare a new edition. He asked each section to consider the matter, and forward suggested new formulæ, or point out in what direction existing formulæ could be improved.

The new Pharmacopœia would come into force on September 1. Before that date every pharmacist would be supplied with an official digest of the principal alterations. He thought that each section might arrange for a lecture on the metric system, which would now have to be used. Altogether, there was plenty of work ahead, but provided they kept up the interest which had characterised the past year, he had no doubt

excellent results would accrue during the forthcoming year. (Applause.)

THE RESPONSES.

Mr. Bartleman (President of the Central Committee) said that he would be pleased to follow up the suggestions made by Mr. Bailey as to future work. The Metropolitan Association had justified its existence, and appeared to him to have much useful work ahead.

Mr. Peters (City Section) said that the City Section held regular meetings, and had found good results accrue therefrom. He thought the year had been one of progress.

Mr. Jewkes (North Melbourne and Essendon) referred to the social results which followed the bringing of pharmacists together. They now knew one another better, and a confidence between brother pharmacists had been established. He could assure Mr. Bailey that the Belgian Fund would receive generous support from his section. He paid a high tribute to the sterling character of Mr. Cochran, who was one of his apprentices, of whom he was proud.

Mr. Turner (Eastern Suburbs) said that his Association was the first to take up the Saturday half-holiday movement and close at 1 p.m. He advocated closing at 6 p.m. every night, except the late night. It was a pity the Antimsulph mark was not more used. At the same time, he had to complain that in two cases the marked prices had not been adhered to. The late night fee had also been a success in his district.

Mr. May (Richmond), in a stirring speech, strongly advocated closing at 1 p.m. on Saturdays. He had no time for those timid persons who wanted the hour fixed at 1.15 p.m., so that the draper's assistant would have time to buy his medicine. Did the grocer keep open an extra quarter of an hour to oblige the butcher's assistant. A tally had been taken of the four Saturdays since 1 p.m. closing had commenced. The result compared favourably with the previous four Saturdays. (Hear, hear.) Such a policy was absurd. Regarding Antimsulph, he had no cause for complaint. All the Richmond chemists had confidence in each other regarding the matter. He would urge his section to give all the assistance they could to the Belgian Fund. Regarding the late fee, Richmond were the pioneers in this movement. The public understood the position, and there was little or no grumbling.

THE PRESS.

Mr. Leete proposed the toast of the Pharmaceutical Press. There were three British institutions they were proud of: The British Navy, General French's "contemptible army," and the British press. Pharmacists in Australia had every reason to be proud of their pharmaceutical journals and their able editors, who were at all times ready to give their services to forward any movement for the benefit of the craft generally. In years gone by chemists were a disunited body, and it was mainly owing to the pharmaceutical press that a better feeling now prevailed. Sometimes the editor ran amok, but, generally speaking, he was able to hold his own. He asked them to drink the toast of the Pharmaceutical Press, coupled with the names of Mr. Butchers and Mr. Piper.

Mr. Piper expressed his appreciation of Mr. Leete's remarks, which had a ring of sincerity in them which was very gratifying. He trusted the Belgian appeal would meet with the success it deserved. Much required to be done, but he believed pharmacists would rise to the occasion and give liberally.

Mr. Butchers said his experience had been that pharmacists now read their monthly journals more closely. He stated that pharmaceutical journalism in Victoria went back to 1858, which was the date of the Pharmaceutical Society's first printed journal, which was edited by Messrs. J. Bosisto and Wm. Johnson. He thanked them for their kind expressions of opinion.

Ballarat Chemists' Association.

The following is the address which was delivered by Mr. A. M. Palmer at the Annual Meeting of the Ballarat Chemists' Association held last month:—

Gentlemen,—

As it is over three years since the revival of our Ballarat Chemists' Association, it would be well now to revise the work accomplished during that period. In the first place (and I think it is most important of all), the Association has brought about a renewal of good feeling amongst us all, and a harmony in working out matters that are for our common good. In place of as, unfortunately, was often the case formerly, chemists simply looking upon one another as mere rivals in trade, there is now a feeling of good fellowship and friendliness, and this in itself is ample justification for the existence of our society, and is evidence of the good results from meeting one another and discussing matters of common interest. One of the first things undertaken by the committee after the re-organisation of the Society, was the formation of a new price list in booklet form. This entailed an expenditure of time and trouble, for which we afterwards felt well repaid, as the list has proved of great value to us all. From time to time we have made alterations and additions to this, and it will soon be necessary to issue a fresh one altogether.

The consideration and adjustment of retail prices has been one of the most frequent subjects of our meetings, but besides this much time has been devoted to the discussion of national insurance, P.D.L., and other subjects of interest to chemists as a whole.

The attendances at our meetings have not been quite as good as they should have been, and I would urge upon brother chemists the necessity of attending when possible, and in this way making our society stronger, and also in helping in the discussion of different matters as they arise. While we recognise and appreciate the work done for pharmacists by the metropolitan association, country members should realise that we, too, have our share to do in supporting them, and by supporting our local society, strengthen the position of pharmacy generally. The appointment of two

country members on the Pharmacy Board was welcomed by country pharmacists, and Ballarat chemists feel that they are well represented by Mr H Fleay, who accepted the position for this district. The most important event during the past year was the visit paid to us by the Pharmacy Board. This, as you know, was the outcome of a suggestion by Mr Fleay, and we all feel that the innovation was a wise one, and was much appreciated by Ballarat chemists.

We all regretted that circumstances compelled Mr Cornell to resign his position as our representative on the P.D.L., but Mr E. Malyon has filled the vacancy for us. Our thanks are due to them both.

To our hon. secretary, Mr. Cornell, we Ballarat chemists are deeply indebted. For the past three years he has willingly given much time and labour for the benefit of our association, and has also, by having notices, price lists, etc., typed in his own pharmacy, saved the society considerable expense.

Queensland.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

The British Pharmacopœia, 1914.

The following announcement has appeared in the Queensland Government *Gazette*:—

Home Secretary's Department,
Brisbane, 26th February, 1915.

His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has, in pursuance of the provisions of "The British Pharmacopœia Adopting Act, 1898," been pleased to declare that "The British Pharmacopœia, 1914," shall have force in Queensland on and after the 1st January, 1916, and shall then be substituted for the British Pharmacopœia as published under the direction of the General Council of Medical Education and Registration of the United Kingdom in the year 1898, which is at present in force in the State of Queensland.

K. M. GRANT.

February 27, 1915.

Personal.

The numerous friends of Mr J. W. Case, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland, will regret to learn that he is an inmate of "Wattletree Hospital." Mr Case became indisposed on March 8, and had to leave business. He is suffering from a throat complaint, and his medical adviser suspects diphtheria. Since entering the hospital, Mr. Case has been making progress.

Mr H. H. RUTHERFORD has closed down his pharmacy at New Farm, Brisbane.

JAMES B. GORDON and WILFRED P. SIMMONDS, sons of Mr J. P. Gordon, of Rockhampton, and Mr J. W. Simmonds, of Toowong, respectively, chemists have been successful in passing the matriculation examination of the Queensland University.

Mr I. J. DREW has purchased Mr. Johnstone's business at Chinchilla. On the 18th of February he was married to Miss Marjorie Chaplin.

Another marriage recorded during the month is that of Mr. G. P. Doyle, who until recently was employed by Drysdale's Limited.

We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Fitzgibbon, wife of Mr. J. H. Fitz Gibbon, who for many years carried on successfully a chemist's business in Fortitude Valley, Brisbane. Mr. Fitz Gibbon himself has been in declining health for some time. His daughter, Miss Fitz Gibbon, is dispenser in one of the Sydney Hospitals.

Mr. LUBBY has returned to Drysdale's temporarily in place of Mr. G. P. Doyle.

Mr. A. L. WILKINSON, Brisbane, is visiting Tasmania.

Mr. W. W. HOLYOAKE, of Mackay, is returning from a holiday in Japan.

Visitors to Brisbane During the Month.

Among these were the following:—Mr. W. H. Ockleford, Kingaroy; Mr. J. Gordon, Rockhampton; Mr. St. Vincent Jubb, Toowoomba; Mr. Groundwater, Maryborough.

New Pharmacies.

Mr. St. Vincent Jubb's new pharmacy in Toowoomba, into which he has recently moved, is described as one of the most up-to-date of its kind in the State. While the premises were being rebuilt, Mr. Jubb occupied temporary premises near-by.

Mr W. J. R. Trouton, Junr., has vacated his former premises in George-street, Brisbane, and has transferred his fixtures to the corner of Edward and Elizabeth streets, near to the College of Pharmacy. Mr. Trouton's removal was necessitated by the purchase of the building by the Brisbane Friendly Societies, who intend to erect a dispensary on the site.

Shortage of Assistants.

An unusual shortage of assistants exists in Queensland at present, apparently due to the number who have left the State on military duties. It is stated that very good salaries are offered by those who have vacancies.

Pharmaceutical Recruits.

The two most recent pharmacists who have been recruited for active service are Mr. W. R. Cadden and Mr. J. L. M. Gallanty. Both are at the Enoggera training camp. Mr. Cadden is from Charters Towers, where he was trained by Mr F. Griffiths. He passed through the College of Pharmacy during the 1913 session, and was a highly successful student. Mr. Gallanty was apprenticed with Mr. A. J. Brown, of Mackay, and has not yet passed through the College.

Warwick Doctors and Friendly Societies.

At a recent meeting of the Warwick Friendly Societies' Association, it was decided to sign the British Medical Association's agreement, thus terminating the unhappy deadlock that has existed so long between these bodies.

Belgian Pharmacists' Relief Fund.

In consequence of a letter received from the General Secretary of the Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference, Mr. C. L. Butchers, the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society decided to issue an appeal to every pharmacist on the Queensland register for funds to assist distressed Belgian pharmacists. Notwithstanding the fact that practically every person addressed had already dipped their hands in their pockets freely to assist local funds in connection with similar objects, the response has been most gratifying.

The Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society reports to the writer the following subscriptions and promises have been received up to the 12th of March, and that the inward flow appears to be undiminished:—

Amounts Received and Promised to date (12/3 15):—

Case, J. W.	£1	1	0	Martio A. ..	2	2	0
Lyttle, Ethel M. ..	1	1	0	Allen, F. C. ..	0	10	0
Luddy, T. J. ..	0	10	0	Donaldson J. E. ..	1	1	0
Brown, W. H. ..	1	1	0	Costin, T. J. F. ..	0	7	0
Hughes, C. H. ..	1	1	6	Johnson, Wm. ..	1	1	0
Burrell, B. L. ..	0	2	6	Owen, S. H. ..	0	10	6
Robson, J. N. ..	0	10	6	Rowland, H. ..	0	10	0
Cray, O. P.	0	10	6	Ridgley, C.	1	1	0
Thomas, H	1	1	0	Millar, T. F. H. ..	1	0	0
Scoweo, A.	1	2	6	Symons, Rita ..	1	0	0
Conaghan, K. ..	0	5	0	Steel, A.	0	5	0
Busch, A. O. ..	0	5	0	Symons, A.	2	2	0
Symons, E. N. ..	2	2	0	Broc elbank, W. ..	1	1	6
Marshall, W. J. ..	1	1	0	Marshall, G. W. ..	1	1	0
Scullen, T.	0	5	0	Shaxson, G.	0	5	0
Hudson Euthomol Co.	1	1	0	Doyle, G. P.	0	10	6
Scowen, Lyle ..	0	10	6	Just, Mabel C. ..	1	1	0
James, R.	0	10	0	Simmonds, F. W. ..	1	1	0
Enright, L. C. ..	3	3	6	Saunders, Jas. ..	5	5	0
Griffiths, Wm. ..	0	10	6	Ingham, T	1	1	0
Seef, F. L.	1	1	0	Bickford, H. W. ..	1	1	0
A. M. Bickford (Firm and Employees) ..	1	11	6	Dent H. I. C. ..	1	1	6
Hood, P. G	1	1	0	Heeney, F. J. ..	0	10	0
Carey, T. J.	1	1	0	Martin, M. J. ..	0	10	6
Loxton, C.	0	10	6	Forbes, A. ..	1	1	0
Curtis, B. D. ..	0	10	0	Gillespie, W. J. ..	1	1	0
Chater, A. B. ..	1	1	0	Costin, J. A. ..	1	1	0
Lloyd, S.	0	5	0	Hardgrave, F. L. ..	1	1	0
Cowley, R. C. ..	1	1	0	Watkins, Geo. ..	5	5	0
Minnis J. A... ..	1	1	0	Mackay, G. J. ..	2	2	0
Lunn, J.	1	1	0	Lenehen R.	1	1	0
Phar Society of Q.	26	5	0	Qu'nsland Benevolent Fund	10	10	0

Making a Total of £102 4s. 6d.

Business in Queensland.

I regret to report this month that business shows signs of slackening off. The wholesale houses are not so busy as they were last month. This appears to be mainly due to drought conditions, which are becoming more general, especially in the north, where normally the rain is incessant during the months of February and March. Though the full effects have hardly begun to be felt, purse-strings are tightening. It is reported that only one sugar mill will crush this year in the Nyr district in place of three as formerly, and several other districts are equally as bad. Central Queensland also is crying out for rain, as in many places in the southern district. The Southern coastal district is not so badly off, but a general dryness is anticipated, and a consequent slackening off in trade.

B.A.F.S. Dispensary.

The annual meeting of the Dispensary was held recently, at which the balance-sheet for the year was adopted. It was reported that the dispensary had purchased property at the corner of George and Turbot streets, for the purpose of erecting a dispensary. The money was raised by debentures from various lodges.

Alderman John Lunn.

On February 22 Alderman John Lunn was re-elected Mayor of Sandgate, a position he has occupied several times. Alderman Lunn is vice-president of the Pharmaceutical Society, and was for several years a highly successful pharmaceutical coach.

Western Australia.

Prosecutions Under Poisons Act.

At the Kalgoorlie Police Court on February 6 John Wills and Co. Ltd., Jas. Brennan, S. Beston, and Matthew Jackson were charged with having sold medicine containing poison without being licensed to sell poisons.

Mr. P. F. O'Dea appeared for the Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia. Mr. O'Dea said that medicines containing poisons had been rather extensively sold by unlicensed persons in the district, and, although not asking for a vindictive penalty, as nominal fines in the past had not had the desired effect, he wished the punishment substantial enough to deter those who had not been summoned, but who were liable to prosecution.

Mr. E. W. Mayhew, Registrar of the Society, stated that a bottle of Fellow's Syrup of Hypophosphates contained 1-64 of a grain of strychnine to a teaspoonful, and he had known where such doses had proved fatal. The other, Chamberlain's Diarrhoea Remedy, had 3/4 of a grain of opium in every teaspoonful.

Pleading guilty on behalf of James Brennan, Geo. Deans, his manager, said they had got the Fellow's Syrup to oblige a customer who wanted three bottles. Then she only took one. It looked like a trap.

Mr. Geary, Police Magistrate: It's hardly a trap when it's a law passed by Parliament.

Mr. Deans: It's not a practice of ours, anyway. It's a slip.

Mr. M. B. Scott, appearing for the three other defendants, thought the medicines were not in the same category as other poisons. The question of danger was all a bogey.

Mr. O'Dea: That's only one element. The other element is that the sale of any poisons or medicines containing poison must be regulated.

A fine of £2, with £3 3s. costs, was imposed in each case.

South Australia.

From Our Adelaide Correspondent.

Food and Drug Regulations, 1915.

The *Gazette* for February 15, 1915, appears with Order in Council, the Regulations under the Food and Drugs Act of 1908 and the standard of requirements. It is a comprehensive set of Regulations of 80 sections on 10 pages of the paper. Reading them through, I was struck with their evident adaptability. There seems to be nothing that any honest manufacturer or distributor cannot reasonably comply with, and the public is amply protected. It is almost completely based on the recommendations of the Interstate Conference held in Sydney in May, 1910. Section 62 deals with wines, 68 spirits, and 69 and 74 drugs, which must comply, with certain exceptions, with the tests, etc., of the latest edition of the B.P. This allows the use of Ol. Arachis for Ol. Olivia in certain preparations. The 1915 Regulations also allow the use of Ol. Gisapie for either. There is a list of drugs, the presence of which must be declared on the label, but a chemist is under no special disabilities in counter work. Some of the Regulations come into force on April 1, 1915. Those relating to drugs, etc., January 1, 1916. The Regulations show the wisdom of combining the commercial with the scientific mind. I don't think that anyone could say that the "tyranny of the expert" is shown in them in any way. They apply to the whole of South Australia.

The Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia.

On the afternoon of March 4th a number of chemists, mostly official and ex-official, met, by invitation of Mr. W. H. Porter, President of the Society, to inspect and informally open the new room which, after much searching and negotiation, has been found in the new buildings of the Central Mission Hall in Franklin-street. It is a well lit, comfortable front room facing the street, and is capable of accommodating about 30 persons, and is graced by a bookcase containing several reference works given by Mr. Baker, some books and also several glass cases containing Materia Medica specimens, given by Burroughs, Wellcome and Co. and Parke Ltd., and I am pleased to say that there is still room for some more. The room is neatly furnished with chairs, etc., in Queensland Maple, and a large board table to match given by Mr. Baker.

Mr. Porter, in opening, sketched out the starting of the Society, what led to it, its work in the early days, and its efforts to obtain a Pharmacy Act renewed and renewed until successful. He spoke of the old members, the Presidents, and the Secretaries, and showed its evolution from a social trade gathering, which it was at first, to its assumption of the control of pharmaceutical education and the sponsorship of pharmaceutical students. He went back to the first class for students which he attended, started by Mr. Harrison at the rear of his shop in Rundle-street, and transferred to the University. The first examination before Mr. Harrison started instruction was held in F. H. Faulding's dispensary, in Rundle-street, one evening, and all the candidates failed. No wonder—they were all reliable young men, good salesmen in a drug shop, but they lacked the training and concentration necessary for an examination room. A stiff examination is but a relative term; a well-trained student will calmly take a paper that would strike with dismay an untrained but perhaps practical one. To remedy this, Mr. Harrison, a Ph.C. of Great Britain, set the ball a-rolling, and it is still going on, with an increasing prestige. Mr. Porter mentioned the names of some, mostly departed legislators, who helped us in our time of need, and showed how our trade with others is changing from its old individualism to the newer collectiveism under societies and unions. It was not quite a Harvard Commemoration Day, but we had every type of pharmacist mentioned in the Act, except there was no English M.P.S. Messrs. Baker and Guenther Hill, foundation members, registered in 1802 as M.P.S., Mr. Porter as in business before October 14, 1891, and Messrs. E. Cooper and Snook, assistants, before the passing of the Act. Mr. Cowling, an apprentice at the time, passed the Modified Examination in 1897, Mr. Kirby came in under the Interstate reciprocity from New South Wales in 1903, and the rest passed their Standard Examination at varying dates.

Exempli Gratia.

"Ah! When shall all men's good be each man's rule?"

At a recent meeting of the Adelaide doctors it was decided that abstinence from alcoholic liquors was highly desirable at the present juncture in view of the reported excessive drinking among soldiers. It was considered that this would set an excellent example to soldiers, and that the medical officers who enlisted would possess greater force in their efforts to secure temperance among the men, particularly those whose noble work it was to attend to the wounded and dying. In order to find out what reception the resolution had met a reporter instituted enquiries. He was informed that many medical men, although moderate drinkers, had willingly agreed to give up even the little alcohol they had been accustomed to take. "We are only too ready," remarked one doctor, "to make some sacrifice, and particularly where that sacrifice is likely to result in a strong moral force in relation to the men who are fighting for our country's freedom."

This attitude of the doctors has been strongly commended in South Australia as being singularly spartan and inspiring.

New Zealand.

Timaru Chemist Prosecuted.

Food and Drugs Act.

Arising out of the crusade by the Health Department, to reduce infant mortality, a Timaru chemist was prosecuted on February 11 on three charges under the Food and Drugs Act for (1) selling an article as infants' food, the label stating that it "contains all the elements of human milk, and is, therefore, capable of supplying the equivalent of natural nourishment," and also the statement "malted food," the statements being false and misleading; (2) selling as infants' food a substance containing woody fibre; (3) selling as infants' food a substance containing wheat flour, the label not stating that it was not fit for infants' under six months.

The defendant stated that he had been importing and selling these foods for sixteen years, and labelled them according to the manufacturer's description, having no personal knowledge of the ingredients. He was convicted on each charge, and fined 20s. each on the first and third, and ordered to pay costs and solicitor's fees, £1 10s., on each of the three charges. The fee for analysis (10s. 6d.) the Magistrate said should come out of the fines.

The Bench further stated that these were the first cases of the kind in the Dominion, and the publicity given would be of more service than a heavy penalty.

Opium in Possession.—Dunedin Chemist Fined £30.

At the Dunedin Police Court on February 22 Alfred Oudaille, chemist, appeared on a number of charges laid under the Opium Act.

The prosecution stated that, from April, 1914, to January 15, defendant had had 1060lb. weight of opium, as against a maximum of 20lb. used by any other chemist in the city, and against 300lb. used in one year by a wholesale firm.

Oudaille pleaded guilty to three charges, which set forth that he had purchased, for the purpose of sale or manufacture, tincture of opium and disposed of it without entering particulars in a book. Defendant accounted for the use of the opium by the statement that he had used it in cough mixture and a drench for horses. He contended that he had disposed, in his shop, of 20,000 bottles of the cough mixture, and had also sold 5000 bottles of horse medicine, and 9000 bottles of a rheumatic liniment mixture containing opium.

A penalty of £10 was imposed in each of three charges.

Medico-Legal.

The Ladies' College of Health.

(Abstracted from the *Medical Journal of Australia*, 13/3/15.)

On August 4, 1914, the Board of Health recommended his Excellency the Governor of New South Wales to prohibit advertisements and the sale of the remedies of the Ladies' College of Health, on the following grounds:—(i.) Orange Lily Suppositories. These vaginal suppositories or pessaries are gelatine capsules, containing boric acid and alum, with a small proportion of opium alkaloids, and some cacao butter. They are recommended as a special treatment for young girls, and as a substitute for surgical treatment by doctors for tumours and other ailments. Dr. Ralph Worrall, to whom the treatment was referred, expressed the opinion that the business carried on by the firm was false, misleading, and a fraud, and the use of the Orange Lily Suppositories injurious to those applying them. (ii.) Blood and Liver Powders. These powders were found by the Government analyst to consist of sugar of milk, with traces of mercury and minute traces of strychnine. (iii.) Kidney Tablets. These consist of sugar of milk. (iv.) Mother's Cordial or Herbal Tonic. The Government Analyst found the tonic to be a mixture of chopped herbs similar to many others used for procuring abortion. An exact analysis was impossible, but rue, savin and pennyroyal were found. The Board of Health expressed the opinion that the remedies were inefficient for the purposes advertised, and actually injurious to the health. The prohibition under the provisions of section 20 of the Pure Food Act, 1908, was therefore recommended.

Objection was taken by the manager of the New South Wales Branch of the Ladies' College of Health to the issue of the prohibition, and the appeal against the determination was heard by Judge Murray on November 22, 1914, and thirteen subsequent days, the hearing ending on December 14, 1914. A considered judgment was read on January 8, 1915. The appeal was heard in private, but in view of the importance of the case, and the findings of the judge, permission has been obtained to publish a record of the case in this journal. On February 10, 1915, the prohibition appeared in the *Government Gazette*.

The appellant called 37 witnesses, three of whom are described as experts in chemistry and herbal analysis, 31 were women who had received the treatment, and spoke of its apparent beneficial effect, and three were husbands of women who had used the treatment. It is unnecessary to enter into the details of the evidence given for the appellant. A general summary will suffice. The so-called experts challenged the accuracy of the analyses made by the Government analysts, but as was clear from the judge's remarks, failed to establish the points. The female witnesses spoke of the benefit received from the treatment, but the value of the evidence

was clearly summed up by the judge in terms reproduced below. The evidence of the three husbands, one of whom was the manager of the business, was of small value to the case.

His evidence occupied the first six days of the hearing. The remaining days were taken up by the hearing of the evidence of the 25 witnesses for the Board of Health. This evidence occupies 300 pages of foolscap, and in view of its voluminous nature can only be summarised very briefly.

The first witness was Dr. J. B. Cleland, Principal Government Microbiologist. From his evidence it appears that specimens of masses passed *per vaginam* after the use of the Orange Lily Suppositories or Pessaries, were examined, and these masses were found to consist of exfoliated epithelium, and in one case shreds of mucous membrane, with uterine tubules, together with blood clot, entangled glucosides, and some fragments of extraneous vegetable matter. No traces of a tumour or of anything like a polypus were found. He recognised that a concentrated solution of alum might have the effect of excoriating the vaginal epithelium and act as an escharotic. He was examined at great length on the justification for certain claims made in the pamphlets published by the firm, when regarded from a physiological point of view.

The next witnesses were the Government analysts. In regard to the suppositories, it was shown that each weighed about 2.86 grammes, and contained 30 per cent. of alum and 17 per cent. of boric acid. In addition there was about 5 per cent. of opium, some fatty matter, and an excipient. No other active ingredient was present. Hydrastin was not found. In regard to the Mother's Cordial, which was a box of herbs, fragments of flowers, leaves, stems, lumps of resin, and particles of powdered roots were found. Savin, rue and pennyroyal were detected by the odour. After distillation, the residue was found to contain alkaloids, glucosides, and resins. One alkaloid was judged to be hydrastin. Couch grass, canella bark and gentian were also found. One of the analysts expressed the opinion that lobelia flowers were also contained. The analysts of a coloured ointment described as the *cerate massage* revealed sulphate of quinine and salicylic acid. No belladonna was found, but on the box a statement was printed claiming that 0.0185 per cent. of extract of belladonna was present. The analyst doubted whether so small a trace could be detected.

Dr. Renzo Rosatti gave evidence concerning one of the patients treated with the suppositories. Dr. John McPherson spoke of a patient suffering from pyosalpinx, who had been treated with the suppositories, and who had brought him a bottle full of vaginal casts which had come away after the treatment had been applied. He expressed the opinion that pyosalpinx at times subsides spontaneously. The casts shed were the result of some caustic irritant. He stated that the claim that the pessaries could rectify displacement and remove tumours, etc., was a physical impossibility. He was cross-examined on the effect of varying concentrations of alum on the vaginal mucosa. He was also examined as to the effect of hydrastis when applied locally to the uterus, and also when given internally.

Dr. Ralph Worrall, of Sydney, stated that many of his patients had used Orange Lily Suppositories. He had seen casts of the vagina on several occasions. The vagina, after the casts had been removed, was raw, and covered with punctate hæmorrhages. The removal of the mucous membrane was dangerous, inasmuch as infection could occur through a raw surface, but not through the intact mucosa. He would swear that the action of the suppositories was caustic. He traversed several of the statements in the book published by the firm. He gave evidence as to the serious effect of applying an irritant in a case of cancer, and postponing the operation. Early operation was the only known cure for cancer. Cancer could not be diagnosed by correspondence. The claim to do this was an absolute fraud on the unfortunate patient. He spoke indignantly of the suggestion in the book that the suppositories should be applied to young girls. It was iniquitous. The evidence given was full and direct, and emphasised the serious objections to treating young girls in this manner, especially for irregular menstruation. The statements made in the book on suppression of menstruation were the reverse of the truth. Amenorrhœa was not due to local changes, but was often a conservative phenomenon. In regard to leucorrhœa, he stated that it was madness and culpable to treat this symptom as if it were a disease. In one place in the book it was stated that itching was a good sign. Dr. Worrall pointed out that itching is a sign of inflammation, and when it follows the application of a remedy, it is an indication that the remedy is doing harm. Numerous other statements which were printed in the book were proved to be quite untrue. The advice to give the treatment a trial violated two essentials. The first was that diagnosis should always precede treatment, and the second, that no injury should be inflicted on the tissues. The rest of the very lengthy examination and cross-examination elicited a number of facts in regard to the physiology of the vagina, uterus and ovaries, and to the effect of drugs on these organs. The cases treated by the Orange Lily and other remedies were put to the witness for an explanation of the apparent or alleged beneficial effect, and in each case a reasonable explanation was given.

Dr. George Armstrong was particularly emphatic on the harm done by tampering with young girls by inserting pessaries into the vagina for menstrual disturbances. Like Dr. Worrall, he gave evidence on the utility of curetting in suitable cases. He contradicted many of statements made in the book.

Dr. J. C. Roberts on denied that the treatment could cure chronic metritis. Any improvement which may have taken place in a patient referred to would be due to an improvement in her general condition of health.

Dr. H. C. Taylor Young spoke of two patients he had examined after the Orange Lily treatment had been applied. In the one case the vaginal mucosa was red and raw. It was unhealthy. He deplored the removal of the vaginal epithelium.

In the second patient there was a large ovarian cyst, which had not been affected by the treatment. The witness gave evidence on the erroneous and injurious statements in the book. He was of opinion that the appellants were obtaining money under the pretence that they could procure abortion by means of their remedies. The drugs used would not have that effect, but in large doses they might prove very dangerous. He also said that young girls should not be taught about sexual matters in the way suggested in the book. He, like many other medical witnesses, was questioned closely on the possibility of the treatment removing sterility. The evidence went to show that this was impossible.

After several other practitioners had given evidence, Dr. A. A. Palmer, First Government Medical Officer, gave evidence on the physiological and general therapeutic aspect of the conditions stated to have been treated. The effect of his evidence was to confirm the evidence given by the other medical witnesses.

In his reserved judgment, his Honour arrived at the following conclusions:—"Mr. Percival Garling is now general manager in Australia of the business known as the Ladies' College of Health. He does not profess to have any expert medical or surgical knowledge or experience. The vaginal suppositories or pessaries are the real foundation of the treatment of the College. It is possible that, but problematic whether, they contain in addition to boric acid and alum and opium alkaloids, a trace of hydrastis or hydrastin, and perhaps some other herbal drug. But it is certain that their effect and intended effect is to act as an escharotic on the epithelium of the vagina. The patient . . . . misinterpreting the appearance . . . . believes that she is being relieved of tumours or growths of the uterus, or Fallopian tubes or ovaries. . . . Growths existing in or about the organs of generation cannot thus be removed, being in most cases curable only by a surgical operation. The refraining from or delay in consulting an expert, occasioned by the belief in the efficacy of this treatment, actually injurious in itself in various ways, and tending to facilitate the entrance of septic germs into the circulation may, for instance where cancer in the cervix has begun, lead to fatal consequences that might otherwise have been avoided. The application of any such treatment to young girls, except under the direction of a medical man, after careful diagnosis, cannot be too strongly condemned, and is physiologically and morally dangerous."

His Honour was satisfied that the casts consist substantially of vaginal epithelium only. Although a comparative unimportant part of the case, the cost of the treatment was enormously in excess of the cost of production.

The Blood and Liver Powders probably had little value, and the Kidney Tablets were absolutely ineffective. In regard to the Mother's Cordial and Herbal Tonic, "the independent examination of these chopped-up herbs made by three experts called as witnesses on behalf of the appellant show such remarkable divergence in the nature of the ingredients as to suggest that the mixture is probably of a very haphazard description. It is certainly . . . an example of the old exploded practice known as polypharmacy. I conclude that it is not intended to, and practically cannot, operate as an abortifacient. I doubt whether the mixture does contain rue, savin or pennyroyal."

Before concluding, Judge Murray said that it was obvious that the College of Health was a commercial undertaking, originating in the United States, of enormous extent, and bringing in very large profits. Any particular collection of even some hundreds of persons who had used the system would form but a small fraction of the whole. There was the possibility that the treatment had failed in scores of thousands. In nearly all instances the very fact that women had made such an experiment unsuccessfully would deter them, out of shame and dread of notoriety, from coming forward.

His Honour was inclined to regard these women witnesses as honest, and "not unintelligent narrators of facts, in which they fully believed. But defective recollection, with a strong, though unconscious, inclination to promote the value of their testimony, acting on the minds of women generally of a neurotic nature, and inclined to connect mere accidental coincidences as cause and effect, goes far to explain how it is that honest witnesses clamly depose to apparently almost miraculous cures. In several instances, medical testimony as to facts, and highly expert medical opinion, carefully given on oath, reduced to a minimum the value of this evidence, or explained it away."

"I do not, however, find as a fact that no one of these women was benefited by the treatment. I do find that (though I am inclined to believe that Mr. Garling, Mrs. Moore and Nurse Ricketts have not, or had not before the hearing, grasped the truth, and were acting in all good faith) the whole thing is an ingenious money-making fraud, presumably the invention of Dr. (?) Coonley." . . . . "The object of their use is to work on the imagination of women, by showing them the wonderful accuracy of the prediction—with a lying explanation made in the advertisement—of the statements in the pamphlet of which it is the compendium. Still, I think it is not unlikely that the use of these pessaries may actually have proved beneficial, accidentally, in effect. In many cases, especially where the patient was of a neurotic temperament. . . . . the belief that the diseased-looking matter which the primarily injurious action of the pessaries had brought away was the origin of the trouble thus got rid of, so reassured the patient that—as in faith-healing generally—she, believing herself cured, or on the way to cure, and substituting healthy hope for morbid introspection, became sound in function as in mind."

"The capsules are distinctly bad in their immediate action, and their general indiscriminate use is dangerous, physically and morally. Their use, applied to the therapeutic treatment of vitally sensitive and important organs, without expert diagnosis or advice, is in the fullest sense indiscriminate." After referring to the question of the constituents of the herbal drugs, he stated:—

Thus [illegible] as the only reasonable inference the conclusion that the formulæ contain nothing of importance to promote the character of the compounds."

"It was also stated that the pamphlet itself is to be withdrawn, and a totally new one substituted. However this may be, it is the present condition of affairs that I must take cognisance of. And the present state of things is that our injurious and objectionable nostrum, the sheet anchor of the whole concern, another less important but quite ineffective for any purpose, and several others that may or may not have some small value, are being sold at a large profit by means of false representation as to their value and efficiency, to the loss and danger of the public. If this be so, then the fact that, accidentally and incidentally, benefit has accrued to some, principally because of their faith, leaves the evil no less an evil to the people generally."

"I may add that it has not been contended, and I do not find that the intention of the appellant was or is to put any of these things off as 'Cortifacient,' or that any of them or any combination of them, if used as directed, would probably be effective for that purpose, but seeing that they are, in effect, sold in the open market, subject to no control or supervision by any qualified expert, and considering their peculiar nature, and especially the peculiar function of the capsules, I think it very probable that the original deviser of the scheme looked to their use for such purpose as a valuable element of profit in his sale. And it is highly probable that they have been purchased and used with that object. If, as the medical evidence explains, their action on the uterus, induced sympathetically by their stimulation or excitation of the vagina were enough to provoke expulsion, from or through the uterus, of morbid growths, then such action would certainly in cases of pregnancy—with pain rendered abnormally severe by both their escharotic and astringent effect on the vagina—be abortifacient."

"Acting on the conclusion at which I have arrived, I confirm the recommendation made by the Board of Health, but I vary the date from September 14, 1914, to February 28, 1915."

Optical.

Victorian Optical Association.

A very enjoyable social evening, arranged by the Victorian Optical Association, took place at the Wattle Tea Rooms, Centreway, Melbourne, on Monday evening, March 1. Mr. E. C. Needham presided in the unavoidable absence of the Hon. W. H. Hutchison, M.L.A., who had promised to take the chair. After a short musical programme, Dr. Mabell Stanley delivered a lecturette on 'The Care of the Eyes,' which was greatly appreciated by those present.

Dr. Stanley said that one of the first essentials to the protection of the eyes was to avoid extreme light of all kinds, and to prevent dust and foreign bodies lodging in the eye. To successfully carry this out, the use of goggles was necessary. Goggles should be close fitting and well ventilated. Goggles made on the periscopic principle, with glass of a chlorophyll tint, were the best type to use. It was highly beneficial to wash the eyes out at night time with a solution of borax and water. A level teaspoonful of boracic acid to a quart of water was recommended. If this were done every night, it was astonishing how readily the eyes would be relieved. It was not advisable to have recourse to drops except under an oculist's direction. They mostly had cocaine in their composition, and this was sometimes a cause of irritation to the eyes. A great deal of sandy blight would be saved if the eyes were regularly washed as suggested.

Turning to the subject of eye-strain, this was becoming more and more a factor in the cause of headaches. Long-sightedness frequently remained undiscovered for years. The eye was primarily intended for distant work, but modern conditions had imposed on the city dweller particularly a large amount of work which required close and constant attention, and involved the eyes to a much greater extent than was good for them. Long sight could be remedied without consulting an oculist. In most cases the optician was quite equal to the task of rectifying it. Where young children were affected, however, it was much wiser to consult an oculist. In conserving the sight, it was important to work in such a position that the direct light did not front the eyes. A person should sit with his back to the light in such a position that he did not cast a shadow upon his work. Tight collars and the undue bending down of the head over the desk were things to be avoided. At night time, the light should be overhead, and of an even character. But the best light to read by was the shaded table light, which could be moved to any suitable position required.

Dr. Stanley then described the various types of sight. Emmetropia was the normal and healthy sight. In this condition, objects at a long distance were in proper focus, but muscular effort was necessary to clearly discern near objects. Hypermetropia was that condition in which the eye required artificial accommodation to bring distant objects into focus. Myopia (short sight) denoted that a person was unable to focus distant objects clearly, but was able to distinguish objects in closer proximity than the normal sighted eye. The myopic was in some respects better off than the long-sighted person, because he had not to exercise the ciliary muscles of the eye to so great an extent when using the sight at short distances. Normally, 12 to 15 inches was the correct distance to hold a book or paper when reading. Some people held it much nearer than was necessary. Myopia in itself was not difficult to treat, but when associated with astigmatism the condition was more complex. Astigmatism was indicated in cases where the horizontal and vertical meridians of the eye were not similar. It required very careful testing and the use of drops to dilate the pupil.

Newspaper type soon tired the eye. Likewise many of the cheap novels. It was much better to pay more and purchase books printed in clear type on good paper. Most people, when they reached the age of 40 to 45, required glasses. The hyperope had to take to glasses earlier. In the case of the presbyopic, the lens of the eye hardened, and glasses of gradually increased strength became necessary to see ordinary type. Usually at 40 the presbyopic was .5 dioptre; at 45, 1.D.; and thence on to 60 and 65, increasing .5 each year, until 3.5 D. was reached, which would generally cover all cases.

At the conclusion of Dr. Stanley's address, Dr. E. Robertson, chairman of the Board of Health, presented the gold medal for the year to Mr. S. Latimer, with a few appropriate remarks. The successful candidates at the recent examinations also received their diplomas through the hands of Dr. Robertson, who took advantage of the opportunity to express his interest in the proposed Optical Registration Bill, which he trusted would in the near future become law. He assured those present of his own desire to see legislation enacted protecting the public, and recognising the qualifications of the trained optician.

Mr. A. R. Bailey proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Stanley for his interesting lecturette. He was pleased to see several pharmacists present, and to note that out of the ten successful candidates who had received diplomas six were pharmacists. He wished the association success in its efforts to secure protective legislation. Dr. Stanley suitably responded.

During the evening, an enjoyable musical programme was carried out, and light refreshments were served during the interval.

Victorian Optical Course.

Some doubt exists as to whether there will be sufficient entries for the first year course on "Elementary Optics and Light" to justify the holding of the class during the present year. If intending students will notify Mr. C. L. Butchers, College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, of their desire to enter for the course, it will enable the committee to come to a decision on the matter.

In the event of no class being held this year, it is suggested that intending students should prepare themselves by taking up the study of Geometry, Algebra, and Trigonometry at the Working Men's College or elsewhere, as a good grounding in these subjects, is indispensable as a preliminary to the study of Optics. Hitherto, such mathematics as were absolutely necessary have, as far as possible, been included in the first year's course; but this method is liable to render both the mathematical and optical portions of the tuition less complete than it is felt they should be. It is likely that in future years, a preliminary test in the above subjects will be required of students wishing to enter for the course in Optics.

Dental.

Dental Board of Victoria.

The monthly meeting of the Board was held on February 19. Present:—Dr. A. R. Elvins (in the chair), Mr. Hall, Dr. Nicholls, Dr. Nihill, Dr. Philpots, Dr. Yule.

Applications for Registration.—Applications for registration as dentists were received from L. V. Stephens, L.D.S., B.D.Sc.; F. T. Herbert, L.D.S., B.D.Sc.; T. V. Trood, L.D.S., B.D.Sc.; A. T. Robertson, L.D.S., B.D.Sc.; L. Walker, L.D.S., B.D.Sc. It was decided to register the applicants as dentists.

Prosecution.—The Registrar reported to the Board the result of the prosecution of G. J. Berwick, Castlemaine. The defendant had been fined £1, and ordered to pay £7 7s. costs.

Alleged Breach of the Act.—A further case of alleged infringement of the Act was brought under the notice of the Board, and the Registrar was instructed to investigate it at once.

Dental Board Election.

Keen interest was taken in the Dental Board election which was held on February 27. There were seven candidates for the three vacancies. The result of the election was as follows:—Dr. Brooke Nicholls, 368; Mr. A. L. Elvins, 306; Dr. J. M. Lewis, 267; Dr. G. Payne Philpots, 265; Mr. C. E. Allen, 192; Mr. G. Finlay, 109; Mr. H. Stevens, senr., 53. The first three were elected.

Breach of the Dentists Acts.

Joske v. Berwick.

The Registrar of the Dental Board of Victoria proceeded at the Castlemaine Police Court, on the 16th of February, 1915, before Mr. Barlow, P.M., and Messrs. Newham and Ireland, J.'sP., against George John Berwick, in that the said defendant not being registered as a dentist, nor recorded by the Dental Board of Victoria, as provided by the Dentists' Act, 1910, did on the 27th day of January, 1915, at Castlemaine, in the Midland Bailiwick, practise dentistry, to wit, the performance of an operation on the natural teeth of one, E. W. Sharpe, for reward, contrary to the provisions of Section 4 of the said Act.

Mr. Joske appeared for the Dental Board, and also as informant. Mr. Newell appeared for the defendant, and pleaded guilty.

Mr. Joske said the case was brought under a very important Act. Public health occupied a great deal of public attention, and the administration of the law in that regard was a serious matter. Dental Acts had been in existence for nearly 30 years, the first Act having been passed in 1887. In 1904 the Australian College of Dentistry was affiliated with the University, which marked a very progressive step in the history of dentistry in Victoria. Unfortunately, while mat-

ters educational had reached a flourishing condition, there remained a serious flaw in the Act governing the practice of dentistry, as under it anyone could practise dentistry so long as he did not call himself a dentist. Parliament remedied this in 1910, making the practise of dentistry an offence except where practised by a qualified dentist, or by a person recorded under the provisions of the Dentists Act of 1910. From that time forward the practise of dentistry by unauthorised persons became a serious offence. It was so, as unqualified persons practising on the mouth had transferred diseases. Despite the Act they still found this ugly thing rearing its venomous head. He asked the bench to take a serious view of the case, not only as a punishment to the defendant, but as a deterrent to others. The Chief Justice not long ago sentenced a man to nine months' imprisonment for practising law when not properly qualified. The Dental Act provided for a maximum penalty of £20. This was the first case of the kind in Castlemaine, but there had been similar cases in other towns.

Mr Joske then entered the box, and gave evidence. He said he was a barrister and solicitor, and also Registrar of the Dental Board. He produced the registers showing that defendant was neither registered nor recorded.

To Mr. Newell: There was no record of defendant applying for registration. The Act provided that within six months after the Act becoming law any person who had spent three years at dentistry, and was over the age of 21 years, could apply to be recorded. He had not knowledge that defendant had put in three years, but was not 21 years of age when the six months allowed by the Act expired. In this case defendant had extracted a tooth. Chemists in remote districts, where no dentist resided, were allowed to extract teeth in order to relieve pain.

Plainclothes Constable E. W. Sharpe, stationed at Carlton, said he called at Mr. Tough's surgery about 11 a.m., on 27th January, and told defendant he had the toothache, and wanted a tooth drawn. Defendant extracted a tooth, and when witness left the chair Constable Hesford, of Taradale, came in, and sat in the chair. Witness asked defendant the charge, and was told half a crown, which he paid, in the presence of Constable Hesford. He then told the defendant he was a constable, and asked him if he were registered or recorded, and defendant admitted he was not, and added that he thought he could draw teeth during Mr. Tough's absence. He said Mr. Tough was at Newstead. There was a nurse on the premises, but no registered dentist. Defendant drew the tooth in a satisfactory manner.

Constable Hesford corroborated the previous witness.

In reply to the Bench, Mr Joske said, as defendant was not 21 years of age at the expiration of the six months' period allowed for recording, he could not apply after that time. Now, in order to become a dentist, he would have to do four years' study at the Dental College and at the University, after passing the preliminary examination.

Mr Newell, for the defence, asked the Bench to look at the circumstances. When the Act came into force, defendant had put in three years at dentistry, but at the expiration of the six months' period he was a month under age, and he couldn't be recorded. Since then he had been with Mr. Tough for three years' training, so he was not a quack or a charlatan. Defendant thought he could practise minor operations, and acted in good faith. He asked for a lement penalty. Defendant recognised the hopelessness of his position, as he could not afford four years at the University, and so he had decided to leave dentistry and go in for surveying.

Mr. Barlow, P.M., said it was a most important thing that the Act should be carried out, as the strictest regulations were necessary, especially in regard to the sterilising of instruments, but in this case there was no risk in that direction, as the instruments were in Mr. Tough's surgery. Mr. Tough, unfortunately, was away on this particular day, and defendant had stepped into the breach to relieve pain—his humanitarian sympathies had been aroused. What he had done was very wrong, and it was also wrong for him to be so long at a dentist's, and not know the provisions of the Act. Defendant was very unfortunate to be under age when the period for recording expired. The Bench looked on him as a careful young man, but the Act must be carried out. The costs were heavy, and he thought it would act as a deterrent if a fine of £1 was imposed, with £7 7s. costs.

Dental Assistants.

According to a statement made by Mr. Downey (Dental Assistants' Union) at the Melbourne Trades Hall Council meeting on March 11, about 250 dental assistants are adversely affected by section 13 of the Dentists Act, and he moved that a deputation wait on the Government to have the section altered. The clause was, he said, one that dealt with the recording of dentists, and the men referred to were debarred from obtaining employment from recorded dentists because the employers would either have to supervise every bit of work they did, or would be liable to a penalty for employing them. The matter was referred to the executive for inquiry.

Education Department's Dental Clinic.

For some time past the health of children attending the public schools throughout New South Wales has been a matter to which the Department has paid special attention. At first special care was given in the examination of the eyes, reporting the cases of adenoids requiring operation, and cases of deafness or mental weakness. The Dental Association took up the work of examining and reporting on the state of the children's teeth, and the report showed that a large number of children required operative treatment if they were to grow up with a set of sound teeth. Recently, Mr I. W. Horrocks and Mr. G. C. Barkley have been appointed dentists to the Medical Branch of the Department of Public Instruction, and Miss G. Thornley has been appointed dental

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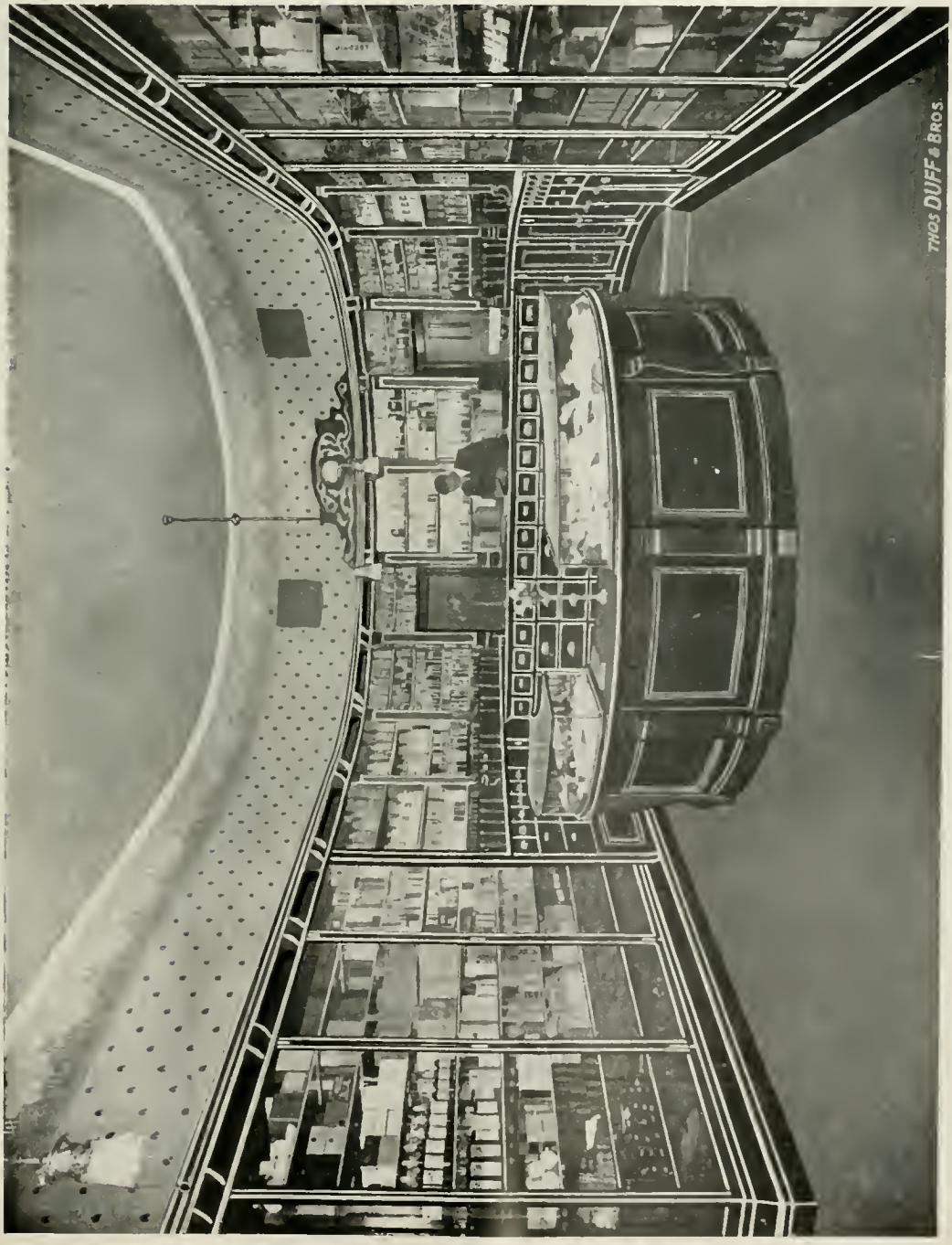

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assistant. The clinic, which is connected with the United Dental Hospital, was officially opened on March 11, and consists of a roomy operating room, waiting rooms, offices for the staff, and a roof garden. The only danger in the matter will be that parents of children, quite able to afford to pay dentists for their work, will avail themselves of this free treatment, and the dentists will suffer the loss.

Lectorial Board.

Melbourne College of Pharmacy.

A meeting of the Lectorial Board was held at the College of Pharmacy, on Wednesday, February 24th, at 11 a.m.

Present: Mr. A. W. Craig (in the chair), Messrs. Turner and Stanton, with Dr. Plowman hon. sec.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

It was represented to the Board that the equipment of the new class room was of some urgency, and that the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society would at present proceed only with that portion of the new additions to the College buildings. The Council requested the Board to formulate their requirements, the cost of the whole not to exceed a certain estimated sum.

A number of recommendations were agreed to.

The Conference of representatives of the Health Department, the Medical Board, the British Medical Association and the Pharmacy Board of Victoria brought before the Lectorial Board the question of pharmaceutical ethics and the responsibilities of pharmacists. After discussion, the hon secretary was instructed to reply that up to the present Mr. Turner, during every session, had dealt with these subjects in his lectures, and would continue to do so, and that Mr. Stanton (his successor as teacher in the special class of Practical Pharmacy) undertook to follow the same course.

Dr. Plowman, as scientific secretary of the Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference, introduced the subject of contribution of papers to the next conference. Mention was made of some possible contributions, and further consideration of the subject was deferred to the next meeting of the Board.

The meeting then adjourned to Wednesday, March 3rd, at 11 a.m.

At the adjourned meeting all the members of the Board were present, and a number of recommendations were adopted in detail for the equipment of the new class room.

It was agreed that it was desirable that the seating accommodation consist of single "automatic triumph desks," size No. 1; that the distance from point to point between each in the rows be 32 inches, and that the rows be 18 inches apart.

The meeting then terminated.

Abstracts.

Label Varnish.

Sandarac	..	℥ v
Mastic	... ..	℥ ii.
Venice turpentine	...	℥ ii.
Camphor	... .	℥ i.
Oil of spike lavender	...	℥ i.
Ether	... ...	℥ ii.
Alcohol	... ...	℥ xii.

Macerate until a clear solution is obtained and filter if necessary.

Eczema Ointment.

Beta naphthol	1 drachm.
Sulphur	2 drachms.
Balsam peru	1 drachm.
Petrolatum	1 drachm.

M. ft. unguentum.—*New York Med. Jour.*

Tasteless Castor Oil.

Saccharin ...	0.12 gram.
Vanillin	0.12 gram.
Oil of coriander ...	0.30 gram.
Alcohol, 95% ...	... 15.00 grams.
Castor oil	...240.00 grams.
Olive oil	... 60.00 grams.

Hand-Cleaning Paste for Automobilists.

Soft soap	80.5 parts.
Ammonia water ...	5.0 parts.
Pumice, finely powdered	31.0 parts.

Oil of turpentine, enough to form a paste.

Fill into tubes.—*Nat. Drug.*

Legal.

Phenyle and the Poisons Act.

At the Geelong Police Court on March 5, before Mr. V. Tanner, P.M., and a bench of honorary magistrates, Edwin J. Hooper and Lloyd Hooper, trading as E. J. Hooper and Co., grocers, Moorabool-street, Geelong, were charged, on the information of C. L. Butchers, Registrar of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, with having sold a poison, to wit Phenyle, containing more than 3 per cent. of carbolic acid and its homologues, contrary to the provisions of the Poisons Act.

Mr. W. E. Pearcey appeared for the informant, and Mr. Wilson, of Messrs. Harwood and Pincott, for the defendants, who pleaded not guilty.

Mr. Pearcey said that the phenyle contained a dangerous amount of poison. The fact that it was sold in a Bitters' bottle, and was not labelled poison, made it all the more dangerous. The board had to see that this indiscriminate sale of poison was stopped.

Robert G. Grant, 17 Neville-street, Albert Park, said that on January 8 he visited defendants' shop and purchased a bottle of phenyle for 6d. The bottle produced was the one he purchased. He kept it in his possession, and subsequently handed it to Mr. Hancock in the same condition as he received it.

F. A. Hancock, manufacturer, South Melbourne, said that the last witness handed him the bottle produced on 11th January. He placed a type-

written label on it and handed the bottle to Mr Butchers.

Charles Leslie Butchers, Registrar of the Pharmacy Board, produced the "Gazette" containing the Proclamation of 3 per cent. preparations of carbolic acid, and its homologues as poisons, also the Medical and Pharmaceutical Register and the list of licensed dealers in poison. Defendants' names were not included in any of these lists. They were therefore not authorised to sell poisons. He produced the Government analyst's certificate, which certified that the bottle contained 18 ounces of fluid, which, on being analysed, was found to contain 11.90 per cent. of phenolic compounds. This was a dangerous percentage. Cases of phenyle poisoning had been reported to the Board from time to time. Half an ounce of carbolic acid was a lethal dose. There were seven fatal doses in the bottle. If a child took a mouthful of the fluid it would be a dangerous dose.

Cross-examined by Mr. Wilson. He was acquainted with the method of manufacturing phenyle. It was not necessary that phenyle should contain a constant percentage of carbolic acid. He had known it to vary from 2 to 15 per cent. Phenol was the chemical name for carbolic acid. Phenolic compounds meant that other constituents except phenol were present. Cresol was one of these. Cresols were homologues of carbolic acid. The term homologue was applied to any series of organic compounds, which had the same chemical properties, the succeeding members of which contained in the molecule one atom of carbon and two atoms of hydrogen more than the members of the series immediately preceding it. Thus the formula for phenol was C_6H_5OH, and for cresol C_7H_7OH. There were a number of these series in chemistry.

To Mr Tanner. There was no reason why phenyle should contain so large a percentage of phenolic compounds. A large number of the better disinfectants contained under 3 per cent. He considered it dangerous that a poison of this nature should be sold by unauthorised persons.

To Mr Wilson. He admitted that defendant had been written to and asked to give evidence in order that the manufacturers might be proceeded against. The correspondence was read to the Bench. When the board found that defendant was unwilling to do this, it authorised him to proceed against the present defendants. The board had no other alternative.

To Mr Tanner. The board only prosecuted in glaring cases. This case was brought under notice, and the board was asked to prosecute.

Mr Wilson said that he desired to withdraw the plea of not guilty, and to plead guilty to a technical offence. He said that the Poisons Act contained no provisions for the protection of the vendor. Defendants sold the phenyle in the same condition as it was supplied to them by the manufacturer. He considered that the sample should have been divided, and portion left with the defendants for the purposes of a fresh analysis. This was done in prosecutions under the Pure Food Act. Phenyle containing 3 per cent. or less of phenol could be sold by grocers. Defendants had acted innocently. They could not be expected to have every bottle in their shop analysed.

Mr Tanner, P.M., said that this was one of those cases in which the Legislature had fixed a heavy penalty, and for a very good reason. Persons who were not authorised to sell poisons should not handle them at all. People saw these things lying about, and did not understand their poisonous nature. The bottle was not even labelled poison. The Pharmacy Board gave defendants an opportunity to come forward and give evidence against the manufacturer. Defendants, however, showed no disposition to give the Board the information asked for. There was then no alternative but to proceed against the retailer. As this was the first time defendants had been before the Court, they would be fined £5, with £1 13s. 6d. costs.

Special Bottles for Poisons.

The same defendants were then charged with having sold poison not in a bottle rendered distinguishable by touch from an ordinary medicine bottle.

Mr Pearcey said that this prosecution was taken under a regulation passed on 10th June, 1907. The phenyle was contained in a square German Bitters' bottle. It was very necessary to safeguard the public against the results of this practice. Anyone taking up the bottle would not know that it contained a poison. It was opaque. The whole object of the regulation was to protect the public. Chemists had to observe the regulations, as well as other traders. Defendants had no excuse. The regulation had been in force for several years, and considerable prominence had been given to it in different trade publications.

Messrs. Grant, Hancock and Butchers repeated the formal evidence given in the preceding case.

Cross-examined by Mr. Wilson. Mr. Butchers said that he had seen a similar make of bottle in hotels. The bottle was known as a German Bitters' bottle. The embossed words on one of the panels referred to various German towns. He did not know that the word "Posen" on the bottle was the German word for "Poison." He had known proprietary medicines to be put up in bottles similarly shaped.

Mr Wilson contended there was no case. The regulation only said that the poison must be in a bottle rendered distinguishable by touch from an ordinary medicine bottle. Medicine might be sold in a beer bottle, but he contended that the bottle referred to was the ordinary dispensing bottle used by chemists.

Mr Tanner said that he knew a medical man who dispensed all his medicines in beer bottles.

Mr Wilson said the bottle was distinguishable to touch from an ordinary medicine bottle. There was no danger of a mistake being made. No one would drink Bitters in a wholesale way. There was no danger of the public mistaking phenyle in this class of bottle for a beverage. If the prosecution had been under the 1914 Act there would be an offence, because in that Act a description of any package, bottle or container had been given. The regulation should have been drawn in the same terms.

Mr. Pearcey said that the regulation was drawn up in 1907, and was intended to cover cases of this kind. It would be absurd to require less dangerous poisons to be in special bottles, and require the more potent ones to be sold in domestic bottles. The bottle had not been rendered distinguishable by touch from an ordinary medicine bottle. He produced poisons bottles to show what he meant by this.

To the Bench: He was not prepared to argue that the word "Posen" on the bottle was the old English way of spelling "Poison."

Mr. Tanner, P.M., after consultation with his colleagues, said that the Bench considered the case had not been proved. It would therefore be dismissed, with £1 1s. costs. He admitted that the Bench had had some difficulty in coming to a decision, and he did not wish to discourage the board in taking similar prosecutions. The regulation did not go as far as the 1914 Act. He desired to refer to another aspect of the case, and that was that it was an offence for any person to have in his possession poisons not properly labelled, and not in the class of bottles required by the Act. He did not think that people realised this. It was all the more necessary, therefore, that traders should carefully observe the provisions of the Act.

Sale of Arsenical Ant Destroyer.

At the Loch police court on March 17, before Mr. Cohen, P.M., F. P. Waymouth, storekeeper, was charged at the instance of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, with having sold an arsenical ant destroyer known as "Loyalstone Ant Banisher," containing 16 grains of arsenic. Defendant was fined £5, with £5 5s. costs.

Correspondence.

Caution.—Fraudulent Cheques.

To the Editor *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy*.

Sir,—During February attempts were made to victimise two chemists in the city—Simpson and Davenport and C. Ogg and Co. The method adopted was to send a messenger boy with a cheque for £5 or £10 or to ring up saying Dr. Harvey Sutton was in a hurry, and could they oblige by cashing the cheque for him, as the banks were closed and he had to catch the Sydney express. In one case a man thus came down with a cheque of £2 or so made out to a number or order. In both cases the cheques were not cashed, though in the latter the messenger took away a tube of kelene. May I state that I have never, nor do I intend to authorise anyone to cash cheques for me in this manner, and warn chemists against this fraud.

Yours faithfully,

HARVEY SUTTON, M.D.

Education Department, Melbourne, 9/3/15.

Lodge Dispensing.

To the Editor *The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy*.

Sir,—I beg to draw your attention to a matter which I think is one of utmost importance to chemists, and which I have not yet seen given prominence in the reports of the various societies published in the Journal. I refer to the greatly increased cost of drugs (and also cost of living generally) without adequate raising of dispensing and other charges. More particularly does this, to my mind, apply to lodge dispensing. I am a pioneer in my little up-country town, and have heavy cartage rates and a trying climate to contend with. I have been receiving 10s. per annum from lodges. This, I know, is a much better price than is paid in many country places; but under the conditions mentioned above I consider it only a fair remuneration. I am now sending the lodges notifications, of which I am appending a copy.

What I wish to bring under your notice, Sir, is the great desirability of a unanimous and, if possible, simultaneous action by the chemists of Victoria to secure what is surely only their right; and my object in asking you to kindly give some space for this matter in the Journal is so that possibly others (and I hope many others) of the brethren will bestir themselves and think of their dwindling profits.—Yours, etc.,

"UP-COUNTRY CHEMIST."

[Copy of letter addressed to the various lodges in the district.]

Dear Sir,—I beg to inform you that I find it impossible to continue dispensing for your lodge at the old rate.

When I entered into agreement with you about 5 years ago, I made my estimate according to the then cost of drugs and what I considered a fair return for specially skilled labour.

Since then war has caused some drugs and chemicals to reach famine prices, and has, without exception, raised the market value of all. On top of this has come an increased spirit duty, and, as all medicinal tinctures consist largely of spirit, again a considerable rise has occurred. Apart from this, since 1912 cost of living has very greatly increased; and from these causes I find it impossible to make ends meet at the old rate, and estimate that I cannot make a fair return under 12s. per head per annum. If your lodge can see its way clear to pay this I will be pleased to continue. In the past I have endeavoured to give your members satisfaction by giving them exactly the same consideration and quality of drugs as the private patients, and if you re-engage me I will continue to try and merit your approval.—Yours, etc.,

Lodge Dispensing.

The Editor *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy*.

Sir,—I notice this matter is down for discussion at the Society's annual meeting. Perhaps my experience may be of interest. This is a

country town with two pharmacists. I have four lodges. The Rechabites pay full dispensing charges, and I allow them 15 per cent off. The A.N.A. Hibernians and I.O.O.F. pay 10/- per year, three months' notice on either side to terminate the agreement. All patent and proprietary medicines, Ichthyol, Liq. Ext. Ergot, Menthol, Cocaine, Aspirin, Urotropin, Iodine Paint, Erlar's Balsam, Cl. Oil, Paraffin Oil, Atropin, Apomorph. Hyd., V.B. Lin., Phenazone are paid for as extras, and prescribe from a series of stock mixtures.

Yours, etc.,
RED CROSS.

Pharmacists and the A.M.C.

The Editor *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy*.

Sir,—Coming from one who has had three years' experience in the Defence forces before the present system of training was introduced, and knowing all about the service, inside and out, during that period, I must say the letter of "Status" in your last issue is hardly one to prompt chemists enlisting.

While I quite agree that the services a pharmacist renders, especially if he had some knowledge of dental extractions, are not sufficiently recognised, yet to write, "That a trained pharmacist is a fool to enter the army in the rank and file," is just about on a par with "Status's" resignation when he found that his fellow-sergeants were rough and not too well mannered.

Personally my time in the army only extended some fifteen months, but I daresay I had as much experience on active service as did "Status" during his three years, and when he indignantly asks "How much more important is the dispenser's responsibility in the field of war?" I can assure him that, much as he knows of the service, he would find himself very far from the actual field of war as a "dispenser" on active service. He would have a few other things to do besides dispensing; some of them would surprise him. From the tone of his letter it is just as well he did resign. I daresay our forces will soon recover the loss of his valued services.

No; in our present time of trouble I would advise any young chemist, qualified or not, to enlist or join our army at the earliest possible moment. *By all means work for the commission, but work first.* Give up your position like many another man more professional has done, and take your share in the work that is ahead.

The experience a chemist would gain in twelve months would be more than the average man gets in twelve years in a shop, and a whole heap of good common horse-sense thrown in. When pharmacists hold the many positions offering in ambulance work generally and oust the present occupier (who may be the local butcher at the head of a lodge) from that position, then the chemist's worth, by organisation, can be made felt. But to stay outside and talk of professional dignity is one of the main reasons why the status of the chemist is not what it should be commercially.

A leading article of the *Argus*, March 6th, says:—"As for the rank and file, if any man be ashamed of belonging to the ranks, he does not deserve to be there. If he tries to show his false shame by conceit, self-will and disloyalty, then the sooner he resigns the better; for it takes a good man to make a good soldier."

Much as I deplore the ill manners of a few sergeants in our army and the lack of appreciation shown in not granting "Status" a commission, yet worse things may follow during the next few months. Absolutely the worst would be to take "Status" seriously and say (honestly) "A chemist is a fool to enter the army in the rank and file."

Yours, etc.,
W. R. WEIR,
Late Ambulance Sergeant 5th V.M.R.

[Our correspondent puts the position clearly and effectively; and greatly to the credit of young pharmacists and their assistants it may be said that a large proportion have joined the Expeditionary Forces as privates. The present great national emergency has led them to do this from patriotic reasons alone. Mr. Weir's experience confirms the justness of the claim for better recognition of the pharmacist's services, and we thoroughly concur with him that the more pharmacists who enlist the better the chance of securing adequate recognition later on. In fairness to "Status," however, it should be mentioned that he was more particularly referring to peace conditions when he advised pharmacists not to join the Army in the rank and file. His letter had to be somewhat condensed for reasons of space, and this may have led to the belief that he was opposed to pharmacists enlisting as privates in the Expeditionary Forces.—Ed. *A.J.P.*]

"Pharmaceutical Toryism."

The Editor *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy*.

Sir,—Permit me space in your valuable columns to express my hearty concurrence with Messrs. Park and Ingamell in their plea for the reconstruction of the personnel of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.

My chief grievance against the Council is the non-accomplishment of Early Closing legislation, which I believe is in no small measure due to them. Compulsory Early Closing is a matter that is most earnestly desired by almost everybody outside the Council, which is mostly composed of notorious all-nighters. Such views are, in my opinion, held either on account of conservatism or self-interest. The one or two who do not come within this category are afraid to do more than sit on the fence.

Now, with a Council so constituted, and with early closing unaccomplished after six years of agitation, is it not reasonable to suppose that these gentlemen must sometimes forget the mandate they have received from their members to bring about early closing. Is it not possible that at times the individual rather than the general interest is consulted? If gentlemen in other spheres of public work, loathed in their official capacity, were to represent to members of Parliament their individual interest as the general one, would not

this constitute an appalling and an injurious breach of trust? These suggestions carry no personal imputation. They are merely put forward to show what an anomalous condition of affairs exists. I cannot conceive how men can either hold or be allowed to hold office with views so exactly opposite to the general view.

While dealing with this subject, I would like to express my appreciation of and my sympathy for our President (Mr. F. P. J. Gray) in the hard road he has to hoe. Mr. Gray is full of good intentions. No doubt his youthful vigour would have accomplished far more than it has if he had been supported by more new blood with fresh and original ideas, and not handicapped by a conservative element led by a gentleman who shall be nameless.

Pharmaceutical Toryism (all other kinds are dead and buried in democratic Australia) may be defined as an objectionable effete fit for the tip, stay-as-you-were, non-progressive collection of ideas on passive resistance principles which rightly belong to a byegone age.

Provincialism is one of these narrow-minded ideas. A few months ago an instance occurred in which civilised convention and hospitable rites were cast to the winds. Mr. F. Buckhurst, of Melbourne, the indefatigable P.D.L. enthusiast, was asked by the President of our Society to visit Sydney and expound the aims and objects of the movement. Upon arrival he was dismayed to find the Society refused support, owing, it is believed, to be irreconcilable attitude of one of the councillors. However, friends were forthcoming to convene a meeting, the subject and the lecturer being sufficiently attractive to command an excellent attendance. Mr. Ll. P. Williams was present, and poured cold water upon the lecturer and his schemes, bringing to his aid the petty-fogging provincialism which we hoped had been buried with Federation. He was deaf to everything else but the hated word "Melbourne." In fact, he said he could "hear nothing else in what Mr. Buckhurst had to say." To the credit of the New South Wales pharmacists, be it said, he was given a very cold reception.

Again, at the last meeting of the Council, the President's nominee was rejected, and the nominee of Mr. Ll. P. Williams elected. I cast no reflection on either nominee, only on the procedure, which is sufficient to bring about the resignation of many a not-very-spirited President.

Now, a few remarks regarding Tory inaction (Toryism always shone here).

The Council has passively resisted everybody and everything progressive, from its President downwards. Local associations and P.D.L. are systematically ignored, notwithstanding the good work that has been done by these bodies; and who have invariably of late years supplied the initiative in everything progressive, i.e., Early Closing, Pushing the A.P.F., Fixing Prices, *Organised* Insurance, and P.A.T.A.

Instead of working harmoniously with these bodies for the common good, as is the case in Victoria, they are regarded as usurpers, and incapable of introducing reforms calculated to work for the good of the craft as a whole.

P.D.L. meetings are now unattended by councillors, on account of the progressive poison administered by this young, virile, capable, and promising Australian body.

How much longer is this Tory inertia to be allowed to undermine the progressive energy of New South Wales pharmacy? Is it to be allowed to expire gradually? Or will the Early-closers and democrats pay their annual subscription, so as to enable them to vote, and roll up at the annual meeting and perform a surgical operation on the Council in the shape of a censure motion.

Yours, etc.,
H. W. MANNING.

North Sydney.

[Mr. Manning asks us to publish this letter, in the best interests of pharmacy in New South Wales. He complains that his views were not expressed as he desired in another publication. We concur with him that a full expression of opinion is desirable, and shall be glad to give space for a presentment of the case for the other side, should such be forthcoming.—Ed., "A.J.P."]

P.A.T.A.

VICTORIA.

Council meeting of the P.A.T.A. of Victoria was held at 50 William-street, on February 23. Present: Messrs. McRoberts (in the chair), Bartleman, Sayle, Drake, Hall, and the Secretary (A. L. J. Peters). Apologies from Messrs. Wood, Wasley, and Fripp.

Correspondence.—Inwards and outwards was read and received. A number of cases of cutting were reported, which were being dealt with by the manufacturers and the Secretary.

Annual Meeting.—The date of the Annual Meeting was fixed for Wednesday, March 31st, at 8.30 p.m., at Sargent's Cafe, Elizabeth-street.

Auditor of Books.—It was resolved that Mr. Barker, Accountant, Phair's Buildings, be requested to audit the books.

Secretary's Salary.—The Secretary said that, as things practically came to a standstill with P.A.T.A. matters at the commencement of the war, until about the beginning of December, when things began to become more normal again, and when P.A.T.A. operations were resumed, he would be prepared to hand back, as a rebate to the Association, half of the amount of his salary for the sixteen weeks, which would be equal to an amount of £32. Mr. Sayle moved, and Mr. Drake seconded, that this be accepted with thanks. The Secretary's salary to the 1st February, and his out-of-pocket expenses, were passed for payment.

The Council met on March 16.

Present.—Messrs. Wood, Drake, Wasley, Bartleman and Sayle. The chairman, Mr. McRobert's, sent an apology, as he was away on holidays. Mr. Sayle was voted to the chair.

The auditor's report was considered, and the balance-sheet accepted by the Council. A letter

was received from the Nestle & Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co., informing the Council of their desire to reduce the minimum retail price for Nestle's Milk Food, and Nestle's Starchless Milk Food, from 1/7 to 1/6 per tin. They were of necessity obliged to do this. After consideration, the Council decided to accede to the request.

Financial. The pass books showed a credit balance of £90 19s. 6d. It was moved and seconded that the following accounts be passed for payment:

Mr. H. N. Barker, auditor, £2 2s.; Messrs. Arbuckle, Waddell & Fawckner, £19 19s.; secretary's salary, Feb. 1 to March 15 (six weeks), £24; secretary's expenses, Feb. 23 to March 11, £3 8s. 4d.; total, £49 9s. 4d.

A vote of thanks to the chairman ended the meeting.

NOTICE.

The Annual Meeting of the P.A.T.A. of Victoria will be held at Sargent's Cafe, Elizabeth Street, on Wednesday evening, March 31, at 8.30 p.m.

A. L. PETERS,
Secretary.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

A new price list, which came into force on March 15, has been issued:—

ADDITIONS TO LIST.—Elliott's Fruit Saline and Royal Cologne; "Exzerma" Skin Lotion; Glaxo Feeders, Teats, and Valves; Salutis Shaving Cream; Volna Skin Soap, Hair Tonic and Powder; Wm-Tal Deodorant Cream and Powder (Preparations for preventing the odor from perspiration).

ALTERATIONS OF PRICES.—Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, Sarsaparilla, Hair Vigor, and Pills; Bromo-Seltzer; Erasmic Shaving Sticks and Peerless Soap; Paliere's Phosphatine Food; Glyco-Thymoline; Mellin's Feeders; Skinner's Mammyteim Goods; Salutis Soap; Tanglefoot Fly Paper; Williams, J. B. & Co.'s Toilet Goods.

REMOVALS FROM LIST.—Anjos Ointment; BAM Medicated Soap, Coonley's Magic Foot Plasters; Dr. Coonley's Remedies (all lines); Hycal; Hygrama Food; Infantina Food; Kill-Big, Harvie's; Koko, old 2/6 size; Langebek's Pepsin; Marvel Magnetic Nit Comb; Mulhen's 4711 Preparations (temporarily removed); Stearn's Goods (excepting Headache Cure and Syrup of White Pine Expectorant) are temporarily removed from list pending re-adjustment of prices; Sulfos Hair Shampoo; Zenobia Eau-de-Cologne, Face Powder, and Soap.

Note.—Johnson and Johnson's Red Cross Kidney and Porous Plasters, Synol Soap, Z.O. Adhesive Plasters, Digestive Tablets, Shaving Cream Soap and Baby Powder are temporarily advanced in price 10 per cent. to Retailers on the prices quoted in this List.

THE P.A.T.A. STOP LIST.—Coupons and Cash Register Vouchers. Under the Rules of the P.A.T.A. any Retailer giving Coupons or Vouchers entitling the Customer to a Bonus or Refund on Purchases is guilty (where such Refund brings the price to the Customer below the minimum fixed P.A.T.A. price) of "*cutting*," and is liable to have his name placed on the "Stop List."

Co-operative Societies acting similarly — whether to ordinary Customers or Shareholders— are also guilty of "cutting," and are under the same liability.

Friendly Societies may not supply their members or others under P.A.T.A. prices.

What "Maintained Price" Means.

"Modern business must rest on the secure foundation that every article must be paid for, every item, from raw material to consumer, must be adequately compensated," says Ward Macauley in the November *Forum*, which is reprinted in the February *New Idea*.

"The maintained price is the most effective means as yet suggested to that end. The maintained price means stable business conditions, power to enforce good pay, good hours, and good surroundings for employees. It means the placing of competition on the higher basis of superior service. Customers will no longer seek the advice of the man who knows the most about his business and then purchase from a man who will shave half of one per cent. off the selling price.

"The maintained price places brains at a premium.

"The cut price fosters trickiness and the lowest ideals of business. The maintained price tends to make the retailer and the manufacturer alike feel a responsibility for the customer. The 'cut-rate' tends to the feeling 'a bargain's a bargain; let the retailer beware.'

"Even if it were true that cut-rate prices occasionally resulted in actually saving money for consumers, it would not be a genuine benefit, for it would be better for us to do with less than to have things we have not paid for.

"As a matter of fact, however, cut-prices are always and must be, in the very nature of things, compensated for by higher prices on other merchandise.

"The maintained price conserves the equality of the customer and assures the manufacturer of well known goods the power to treat all of his patrons alike, regardless of their place of residence."

P. D. L.

The directors met on March 16.

Present.—Mr. Buckhurst (chair), and Messrs. Gulliver, Malyon and Towl. Apologies from Messrs. Mewkill and Peters.

Election of New Members.—Henry Glover and Harry E. Glover, Mount Gambier, South Australia.

Names Erased from Members' List.—In accordance with the Articles of Association, the names of nine members were erased from the list for non-payment of subscription.

Army Commissions.—The Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia wrote that the article in the *Chemist and Druggist* January 1st met with the unqualified disapproval of the Council; from the Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland that the article did not express the views the Society had consistently advocated. Mr. Buckhurst said that the *Chemist and Druggist* had published a garbled reply to his official statement. He had therefore dictated a further article on the subject, and had forwarded it to the *A.J.P.* for publication.

Sale of Strychnine.—A member wrote, complaining that rabbit inspectors were selling strychnine to land owners at less than the listed wholesale price. The attention of Mr. F. S. Allan, Chief Inspector Vermin Department, was drawn to the complaint, and correspondence on the subject was read. Mr. Allan's final letter stated that the inspectors did not sell strychnine or poisoned material to anyone, but merely charged land owners for such as might be used in carrying out the work of vermin destruction. Mr. Towl said that he would see Mr. Allen about the matter. At the same time it was hopeless to expect the Government to further restrict the sale of strychnine. He thought that Mr. Allan would see there was no unfair treatment of chemists.

Condy's Crystals.—The solicitor advised any pharmacist receiving a communication from Messrs. Condy and Mitchell's solicitor to refer the matter to the P.D.L. He had interviewed the firm's solicitor, and had been given to understand that there would be no action taken in regard to the present cases. He advised the directors that, in his opinion a pharmacist was only doing his duty in labelling a proprietary preparation *Poison* so long as he was satisfied it was poisonous. He referred to articles which were not poisons within the schedule to the Poisons Act. On the second question asked, he advised that no pharmacist was entitled to supply something else to a purchaser who asks for a proprietary preparation by name. If the vendor did so he was liable to an action for damages at the suit of the proprietor. If the seller was not sure of what the purchaser wanted he was justified in asking, but he must be careful not to represent that anything else was just as good.

Railway Freights.—The Secretary said that he had interviewed the Railway Department on the complaint of undue discrimination in the rate of freight charged on groceries and medicines. The department said that both groceries and medicines were charged the same rate of freight, and that where district rates were charged any preparations such as Fluid Magnesia, Seidlitz Powders, Epsom Salts, etc., which were classed as groceries, were not required to pay a higher rate. Even if sent direct to a chemist by a wholesale druggist they were charged freight as groceries. The chairman said that it appeared that chemists were not singled out and treated differently. The only exception was that a grocer by ordering a truck might get a concession, but that was common to all commercial concerns where large parcels of goods were dealt with.

Alteration of Objects.—The solicitor reported that the Acting Chief Justice had granted the petition of the company to have its Memorandum of Association altered in the terms of the special resolution passed in November last. Considerable expense had been saved by getting the sanction of the Court without a second application and the insertion of long advertisements in the papers. He had filed the alteration, and was now preparing amended Articles of Association for carrying out the extended powers.

General.—It was decided to grant an honorarium of £3/3/- to Mr. T. M. Young, Hon. Sec. of the South Australian branch, in recognition of his services.

Mr. Towl, for the Hon. Treasurer, submitted financial statement, showing credit balance of £34 3/11.

It was resolved to interview the Chief Inspector of Factories with regard to a question raised by a country member as to whether a manager of a branch pharmacy was an employee within the meaning of the Factories Act.

The meeting adjourned.

Personal.

Miss Irene Hearne has been assisting Miss McBurney, at Kilmore.

Mr. P. McSweeney has accepted a position at the Brunswick Dispensary.

Mr. Harry Williamson is going to the Melbourne Hospital.

Mr. A. W. Madge is relieving at the Prahran Dispensary.

Mr. R. Chepseman is acting as locum for Mr. F. T. Stone, Mildura.

Mr. F. J. Ellis has gone to Mr. O. J. Lawson, Fitzroy.

Mr. H. W. Jones is to relieve Mr. F. A. Guenther, Numurkah.

Mr. J. M. Harkness has gone to Mr. C. H. Flack, Oakleigh.

Mr. J. Hetherington is to relieve Mr. R. H. Clyne, Warrnambool.

Mr. J. Stanley has gone to Mr. W. B. Reid, Malvern.

Mr. F. J. Ellis has been acting as locum tenens for Mr. Ralph Barnes, Horsham.

Mr J. A. Breton has been relieving at the Williamstown Dispensary.

Mr. D. Shaw is relieving Mr. A. J. Botterill, of Bunyip, for a few days.

Mr. E. F. Morris, registered pharmacist, of New South Wales, has joined the dispensing staff of Messrs. F. Longmore and Co., Melbourne.

Mr. A. L. Craven is relieving at the Pharmacy of Mrs. Ziebell-Brown, Northcote, for three months.

Mr. A. W. Thomas from New South Wales, is at present relieving Mr. Wheeler, Warragul, who is indisposed.

Mr. J. J. Carroll is relieving Mr. H. Paul [illegible], North Melbourne, and later goes on to Mr. H. J. Mewkill, St. Arnaud.

Mr. Leon Horwitz, having relieved Mr. H. B. Taylor, is at present relieving Mr. E. L. [illegible], Elizabeth Street, and later goes to assist Mr. A. S. Colin, Camberwell.

Miss H. Jacobsohn, after fulfilling a lengthy term as chief assistant at Mr. D. McLean's pharmacy, Kyabram, has accepted the position of dispenser at the Sale hospital.

Mr. D. Shaw, after relieving at Messrs. A. M. Palmer and Co., Ballarat, has gone to Morningon to take charge of Mr. J. T. Sanders' pharmacy for three weeks.

Mr. S. V. Say, Balralla, visited Tasmania during the month in connection with the excursion arranged by the Institute of Mining Engineers, to the principal Tasmanian mine fields.

Mr. J. F. Hughes, chemist, of Sydney-road, Brunswick, son of the late Mr. A. E. Hughes, J.P., was sworn in as a J.P. for the Central Bailiwick by Mr. Justice Hood, in the Practice Court, on March 9.

Miss Clarice Malyon, sister of Mr. E. F. Malyon, chemist, Ballarat, has been appointed a member of the teaching staff of the University Conservatorium of Music. Miss Malyon's subject is singing.

Mrs. S. A. Grosse, widow of the late Mr. Joseph George, a former councillor and well-known pharmacist, of Brunswick, has notified the local city council that she wishes to erect a drinking fountain at the intersection of Sydney-road and Park-street, the entrance to the city from Parkville, in memory of her father, the late Mr. T. Wilkinson. Mr. Wilkinson was the first chairman of the municipality. The council has agreed to appoint a committee to wait on Mrs. George in regard to the site for the fountain.

Trade Notes.

Mr. A. M. Steinthal has opened a pharmacy at Heyfield.

Another Curious Order.—Mr. E. T. Church, Balaclava, received a written order a few weeks ago for "1 dram of Hgdio Chocolate of Quinnie." He supplied Hydrochlorid of Quinine, which was what the customer wanted.

Cabled Advice has been received in Melbourne that the price of Cod-Liver Oil is over 8/- per gallon in London, and the market is steadily rising. Other prices of importance cabled are:—Phenacetin, 16/- per lb.; Acid Aceto salicylic, 17/- lb.; Salicylate of Soda, 12/- lb.

Brighton Dispensary has issued a circular to members stating that "should the dispenser be absent, urgent prescriptions can be obtained from any chemist. Members can help the dispensary by making cash purchases there. When allowable by the proprietors of the drugs, the dispensary prices are cheaper than elsewhere."

Freeman's Chlorodyne.—Attention is drawn in this issue to the value of Freeman's Chlorodyne as part of the "equipment" of soldiers about to see service abroad. "A bottle of this specific," says the *Globe* newspaper (London), "should most certainly form part of every soldier's kit." Pharmacists are invited to recommend their customers to send a bottle to their soldier friends.

Early Closing at Maryborough.—Chemists' shops at Maryborough were, by Regulation, gazetted on February 24, brought under the closing provisions of the Factories Act. The hours for closing were fixed at 8 p.m., except on Fridays (10 p.m.). On Saturdays, pharmacies must close at 1 p.m., re-opening in the evening from 6 to 8. Sunday hours are not fixed by the Regulation.

Mr. Lesli Meagher, staff sergeant compounder in the A.E.F. at Mena, Egypt, has sent his father, Mr. Martin Meagher, pharmacist, of Cleveland-street, Sydney, an interesting account of his experiences in unpacking his stock and beginning his dispensary work for the troops. Very different from the spic and span dispensary he had been accustomed to. Mr. Martin Meagher is himself one of the hon. lieutenants of the A.A.M.C., and his eldest son is also abroad on active service for the A.A.M.C.

The March of Events.—Messrs. F. Stearns and Co., Detroit, in their excellent little journal, the *New Idea*, publish a comparison of prices ruling in 1900 with those operating in December, 1914. The figures are interesting and instructive:—

	1900. Per lb.	1914 Per lb.
Saptonine	£0 10 0	£8 2 6
Belladonna Leaves	0 0 5½	0 4 7
Buchu	0 0 9	0 6 2
Ergot	0 0 11	0 3 9
Goblen Seal	0 2 4½	0 16 8
Citric Acid	0 1 3	0 2 8½
Vex. Senna	0 0 3½	0 1 8
Opium	0 10 1	2 1 8

Lodge Dispensing at Rochester. Owing to the uncertainty that has existed amongst members of the Rochester Lodges as to which drugs should be personally paid for when included in the Lodge doctors' prescriptions, new arrangements have been made with the local pharmacists. While the members' medicine fees are likely to be raised by sixpence per member, the Lodges will pay the chemists for all medicines dispensed instead of treating medicines not in the B.P. as outside the Lodge agreement. The quarterly accounts for medicine will be rendered to the Lodges with particulars, and the accounts will be paid from the dispensary fund towards which the usual medicine fee of each member on the doctor's list is now paid, instead of paying the lump sum to the chemists as under the old unsatisfactory agreement. The result of this innovation will be awaited with interest. If the present sum of 2/- per member per quarter is insufficient to meet the medicinal requirements of members the dispensary fee will have to be raised. This, Lodge officials are agreed, will be more satisfactory than the previous arrangement whereby Lodge members had to bring a bottle and pay for certain drugs prescribed, which the dispenser contended were not in the pharmacopœia.

Australian Belgian Pharmacists' Relief Fund.

Victorian Contributions to March 16, 1915.

Mr W. G. Hearne, Geelong, writes that he had just forwarded £50 to the local Belgian Fund a few days before the circular was received, and that his staff had also forwarded £10, with a promise that they would contribute a similar amount every three months till the war ends. Mr. Hearne says: "Had I received your letter earlier, I would have sent these amounts to you, but, after all, the results will be the same."

	£	s.	d.
Pharmaceutical Society ...	50	0	0
*Leete, E. H. ...	2	2	9
Butchers, C. L. ...	1	1	0
Fleay, W. H. ...	1	1	0
Edwards, A. ...	1	1	0
Francis, Geo. ...	2	2	0
Parry, F. T. ...	2	2	0
Woodhouse, W. T.	2	2	0
Cole, G. M. J. ...	1	1	0
Wilkinson, R. W. ...	2	2	0
Brinsmead, J. ...	1	1	0
Bailey, A. R. ...	2	2	0
Shaw, D.	1	1	0
Say, S. V. B. ...	1	1	0
Peters, A. L. J. ..	1	1	0
Francis, R. P. .	2	2	0
Henshall, S. H ...	5	5	0
Brownscombe, W. J.	1	1	0
Loughnan, C. T. ...	1	1	0
Baird, H. A. ...	0	10	0
Baird, S.	2	2	0
White, F. W. ...	5	5	0
Barker, Louis ...	1	1	0
Milford, J. E. ...	1	1	0
Flack, C. H. ...	1	1	0
Boothman, C. A. ...	1	1	0
Gilbert, F. W. ...	1	1	0
Catheart, P. C ...	1	1	0
Bartleman, G. H. ...	2	2	0
Blackie, Jas. ...	1	1	0
Ekins, Charles ...	1	1	0
Cox, J.	1	1	0
F.H.B	0	10	6
Bell, Alexr.	1	5	0
*Barnes, Ralph ...	0	10	0
*Stephenson, A. ...	1	5	0
Gabriel, C. J. ...	1	1	0
*Markham, Walter ...	1	1	0
Bennett, H. P. ...	1	1	0
Fisher, E. L ...	1	1	0
Charles, R. E. ...	1	1	0
Wallis and Son, C. ...	1	1	0
C.E.H.	0	5	0
Davies, E. C. J. ...	1	1	0
Bain, A. R.	1	1	0
A.M.H. ...	0	10	0
Atkinson and Son ...	1	1	0
Reid, W. B.	1	1	0
Knight, L.	1	0	0
Sayle, T. A. C. ...	2	2	0
Lawson, O. J. ...	2	2	0
Taylor, W. A. ...	1	1	0
Raffan, R.	1	0	0
Spiller, W. P. ...	1	1	0
Attwood, G. F. ...	0	10	0
Bilton, A. E. ...	0	10	6
LeCouteur, G. T. ...	0	10	0
George, Mrs. J. ...	1	0	0
Hudson, G. C. ...	0	10	0
McBurney, J. ...	1	0	0
Barnes Jas. ...	2	2	0
Clemes, A. B ...	2	2	0
T.H.B.	1	1	0
Rundle, A. B. ...	2	2	0
Harris, J. W. ...	1	0	0
Richardson, A. J. ...	1	1	0
Potter, E.	1	0	0
Goodman, D. H. ...	1	0	0
Willson, C. F. ...	1	1	0
*Eyval, T. B.	3	3	0
Barker, Miss A. K.	2	2	0
Thompson, C. L. ...	1	1	0
Thursfield, W. ...	1	1	0
*J.H.G.	3	3	0
McGibbony, A. W.	0	10	6
Crawford, J. A. E.	1	1	0
Ogle, J. F.	1	1	0
*O'Leary, P. M. ...	0	10	6
Sanders, J. T. ...	1	1	0
Cowper, W. J. S. ...	1	1	0
Sutcliffe, H. ...	1	1	0
Every, F. W. ...	1	1	0
*H.O.	1	1	0
Whitehouse, J. W.	1	1	0
Darken and Nickolson	1	1	0
Davis, A. E	1	1	0
Shaw, A	0	10	6
Taylor, A. E. ...	0	10	0
Bowen and Co. ...	2	2	0
Simpson and Davenport	2	2	0
Stephens, W. ...	0	10	6
A Student	0	10	0
Garrick, J.	1	1	0
Jones, T. B.	1	1	6
Moore, Frances A.	0	10	0
Long, W.	0	10	6
Mewkill, H. J ...	2	2	0
Corson, N.	3	3	0
Andrew, W. H. ...	0	10	0
*Pedley and Son ...	1	1	0
Anderson, J. A. ...	1	1	0
Easton, R. A. ...	1	0	0
Wells, R. A. ...	0	10	6
J.W.F.	0	5	0
	£180	0	0

Per South Suburban Chemists' Association.

	£	s.	d.
Daintree, E. ...	2	2	0
Cochran, J. W. ...	1	1	0
Merier, W.	2	2	0
Leete, E. H. ...	1	1	0
Andrew, F. W. ...	2	2	0
Pleasance, G. ...	1	1	0
Murie, A.	1	1	0
Dyer, W. S.	1	1	0
Lee, F.	1	1	0
Hendry, P. M. ...	1	1	0
Davis, H.	1	1	0
Bendelack C. ...	2	2	0
Peacock, C. A. ...	2	2	0
Maxwell, — ...	1	1	0
Leonan, —	1	1	0
George, —	1	1	0
Rankin and Eyval...	3	3	0
Richmond and Co.	2	2	0
Woodhouse, W. W.	1	1	0
Hislop, J.	1	1	0
Baggs, S.	1	1	0
	£30	9	0
	180	0	0
TOTAL	£210	9	0

*Also promised further amounts during next three months.

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

March Examination Questions.

LATIN.—1. Translate *either* both of the given pieces from Cæsar *or* both from Vergil.

2. Parse the words in italics in the passages chosen for translation

N.B.—In parsing noun or adjective give nominative and genitive singular in Latin without abbreviation, number, gender, case, and full syntax; in parsing verb give principal parts in Latin without abbreviation, person, number, tense, mood, voice, and full syntax.

3. Decline, giving meaning and gender of nouns, meanings of adjectives and pronouns:—nouns—pastor, faber, domus; adjectives—ferox, simplex; pronouns—quivis, idem.

4. Give in columns for the following nouns the meaning, gender, genitive and ablative cases, singular and plural:—lux, mare, linter, nepos, fulmen, fons

5. (*a*) Give the meaning and comparison of the adjectives—piger, suavis, facilis, tenuis, constans, malus; and of the adverbs—ferociter, sapienter, audacter, tuto, multum, certo.

(*b*) Fill in the cardinal, ordinal, distributive, and adverbial forms for the numerals 9 and 10. Translate—115 houses, 2000 horses, 1508 heads.

6. (*a*) Explain the construction in the passive of verbs which govern the dative in the active. Translate—We are spared; the man must be forgiven (gerundive of ignosco); you are not persuaded.

(*b*) Define and give an instance of indirect question, genitive of quality, genitive of indefinite price, subjunctive of purpose.

7. (*a*) Write out principal parts and meanings, with present infinitive passive (where used) and future participle active of—condo, alo, misceo, sepelio, surgo, nascor, nanciscor, sequor.

(*b*) Write out these tenses:—

Perfect indic. active—cano.
Pluperfect subj. act.—studeo.
Future indic. pass.—reperio.
Present subj. act.—refero.
Future indic. act.—transeo.
Present subj. pass.—tollo.

8. Translate—

(*a*) We hope that the war will be finished before the end of this year.

(*b*) If the enemy invade the land they will destroy the cities.

(*c*) If you had gone to Rome you would have met my sister.

ARITHMETIC.—1. Simplify the fraction—

$$\frac{1.403 \quad \frac{2}{3} \text{ of } 141.75 - \frac{1}{5} \text{ of } 38.125}{7.315 \quad 5 \times 18.0 + 25 \times 1.22}$$

giving the answer as a decimal.

2. ... al to value of 4 lbs. 9 oz. 15 dwts. 11 grs. ... l at £3 17 10 ... per oz.

3. Goods pass successively through the hands of three dealers, each of whom in selling adds a profit of 10 per cent. to his cost price. If the third dealer sells the goods for £33/5/6, find what the first dealer paid for the goods.

4. If the income tax were 2¼ per cent. instead of 5d. in the £1, find what difference would be made in the tax payable on a gross income of £875.

5. Find the simple interest on £1368/16/8 from 13th August, 1914, to 20th March, 1915, at 4½ per cent. per annum. Give answer to nearest penny.

6. A sovereign consists of 22-carat gold (that is, of 24 parts 22 are pure gold, 2 are alloy), and weighs 123.274 grains. Find in lbs. avoirdupois correct to three places of decimals the weight of pure gold in 600 sovereigns.

7. In an examination *A* obtains 48 per cent. of full marks and *B* obtains 33 per cent. Together they get 507 marks. What were full marks?

8. Eighteen kilometres 17 decameters 25 decimeters 12 millimetres is multiplied by 5; 9 kilometres 4 hectometres 19 metres 12 centimetres 1 millimetre is divided by 9. The latter result is added to the former. Find the result in metres.

9. A tank contains 21,000 litres. If the length and breadth are 5.6 metres and 2.5 metres respectively, find the depth.

10. The specific gravity of silver is 10.5. Find the weight in grammes of 72 cubic decimetres of silver.

ENGLISH.—1. Write an Essay on—

War, and its Results;
The Choice of a Profession;
Or,
Out-of-Door Pastimes.

2. Give the general and the detailed analysis of the following sentence:—

Nor is it the least part of our happiness that, while we enjoy the remotest products of the north and south, we are free from those extremities of weather which give them birth; that our eyes are refreshed with the green fields of Britain, at the same time that our palates are feasted with fruits that rise between the tropics.

3. Correct all the errors you find in the following sentences, giving your reasons:—

(*a*) You are not likely to succeed without you take pains.
(*b*) Divide this equally between the six of you.
(*c*) After a church, surely the most disgraceful place to pick pockets is in a cricket ground during the game.
(*d*) He took his departure from Madrid whence he was destined never to return.
(*e*) Such were the difficulties with which he was involved.

4. (*a*) Explain what is meant by noun clause, adjective clause, adverbial clause, and give an example of each.

(*b*) Explain the difference between strong and weak verbs. Give the principal parts of see, saw, lie, lay, rise, raise, run, fly, flee, classifying each as strong or weak.

5. Name the authors of the following pieces, and give a brief summary of their contents:—Ode to the West Wind, Retaliation, In Praise of Chimney Sweepers, Kenilworth.

6. Give, in your own words, the substance of Burke's objections to the use of force against America.

7. Explain these passages, saying where each occurs:—

(*a*) These almost clergy imps, who sport their cloth without assumption.
(*b*) Time, the old Saturnian seer,
(*c*) He sang of love, with quiet blending.
(*d*) Not even your Britain's groans can pierce
The leaden silence of your hearse.
(*e*) My old master Ascham would have chid me for forgetting the author.

8. Write out—

(*a*) Stanza beginning "And Ardennes waves . . . ."
(*b*) Verse beginning "Leave to the nightingale. . . . ."
(*c*) Six lines from "So rest, for ever rest."

ALGEBRA.—1. Find the product of the four factors

$x + y$, $x - y$, $x^2 + xy + y^2$, $x^2 - xy + y^2$.

2. Divide $x^3 + (4ab - b^2)x - (a - 2b)(a^2 - 3b^2)$ by $x - a + 2b$.

3. Reduce to lowest terms

$$\frac{x^3 - 3x^2 - 4x + 12}{x^3 - 2x^2 - 9x + 18}$$

4. Simplify

(i) $$\frac{a(x - b)(x - c)}{(a - b)(a - c)} + \frac{b(x - c)(x - a)}{(b - c)(b - a)} + \frac{c(x - a)(x - b)}{(c - a)(c - b)};$$

(ii.) $$\frac{x - y}{x} + \frac{2y}{x - y} + \frac{y^3 - xy^2}{x^3 - xy^2}.$$

5. Find the prime factors of

(i) $72(x^2 - 1) - 72x$;
(ii) $a^2b^2 - a^2 - b^2 + 1$;
(iii) $a^3 + b^3 + 3ab(a - b) + c^3$;
(iv) $a^2 + b^2 + 2ab - c^2$.

6. Solve the equation

$\frac{1}{2}(x + a + b) - \frac{1}{3}(x + a - b) = b$.

7. Solve the simultaneous equations

$$\frac{2x - y}{7} + 3x = 2y - 6.$$

$$\frac{y - 3}{5} - \frac{y - x}{6} = 2x - 8.$$

8. Solve the quadratic equation

$$\frac{2x}{x - 4} + \frac{2x - 5}{x - 3} = 8\tfrac{1}{3}.$$

9. If 7 yards of stuff and 17 yards of silk cost £13/7/-, and 12 yards of stuff and 7 yards of silk cost £9/12/-, find the price of each material per yard.

10. The telegraph poles along a certain railway are at equal intervals. If there were one more pole in each mile the intervals would be reduced by 8⅘ feet. Find the number of poles in a mile.

EUCLID.—1. If two triangles have two sides and the included angle in one equal respectively to the corresponding parts in the other, the triangles are equal in all respects.

In the isosceles triangle ABC, D and E are the mid points of AB and AC respectively. Prove that $CD = BE$.

2. If at a point in a straight line two other straight lines on opposite sides of it make the adjacent angles equal to two right angles, these two straight lines shall be in one and the same straight line.

3. Any two angles of a triangle are together less than two right angles. Hence show that every triangle must have two acute angles.

4. Prove that if one side of a triangle is produced, the exterior angle is equal to the sum of the two interior opposite angles and that the three interior angles of a triangle are equal to two right angles.

If all the sides of a rectilineal figure are produced in the same direction, show that the sum of the exterior angles thus formed is four right angles.

5. Equal triangles on the same base and on the same side of it are between the same parallels.

The straight line joining the mid points of two sides of a triangle is parallel to the third side.

6. Describe a square on a given straight line and prove your construction.

7. Show that if a straight line is divided into any two parts the square on the whole line is equal to the sum of the squares on the parts together with twice the rectangle contained by the parts.

8. Show that if a straight line is divided into any two parts, the squares on the whole line and one part are together equal to twice the rectangle contained by the whole line and that part together with the square on the other part. Show that the proposition is the geometrical equivalent of the algebraical statement—

$$(a - b)^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab.$$

9. Prove that in any triangle the square on the side opposite an acute angle is less than the sum of the squares on the sides containing the acute angle by twice the rectangle contained by either of those sides and the projection of the other upon it.

Final Examination.

Practical Pharmacy.—Section 1. (a).—Written Work.—Examiner: Mr. A. R. Bailey. Time allowed: Three hours.

1. Give the composition of the following B.P. preparations, viz., the Ingredients, the proportions, the doses (if any), the Antidotes (if any), and the Incompatibles:—

Liq. Morph. Acet.	Tr. Chloroformi et Morphinæ Co.
Pulv. Jalapæ Co.	Liq. Hydrarg. Perchlor.
Tr. Quininæ Amm.	Tr. Digitalis.
Pulv. Glycyrrhizæ Co.	Mist. Creosoti.
Pulv. Ipecac Co.	Pulv. Antimonialis.
Liq. Iodi. Fort.	Liq. Arsenicalis.
Vin. Quininæ.	Tr. Nucis Vom.
Tr. Cardamomi Co.	

—[15 marks.]

2. Describe the B.P. Process of making Liq. Magnesii Carbonatis and comment on it. —[5 marks.]

3. What are the B.P. characters and tests for chloroform? What are they intended to exclude. —[10 marks.]

4. (*a*) Find the specific gravity of Linimentum Chloroformi B.P. assuming that no expansion or contraction takes place on mixing the ingredients, and that the s.g. of Linimentum Camphoræ is 0.915, and that of Chloroform 1.492. —[5 marks.]

(*b*) What weight of concentrated phosphoric acid must be used to make 4 fl. oz. of a dilute acid containing 10 grams H_3PO_4 per 100 cubic centimetres. —[10 marks.]

(*c*) In preparing extractum nucis vomicæ I took 1½ fl. oz. of the liquid extract and evaporated it until it weighed 150 grains. What weight of sugar of milk must be added to make the solid extract of B.P. strength? [10 marks.]

5. How would you estimate the percentage strength of alcohol in a tincture? —[5 marks.]

6. How would you dispense the following:—

℞	Iodoform.	
	Thymol	ad. gr. ½
	Ol. Anisi.	♏ i.
	Pulv. Saponis	q.s.
	♏ *ft.* pil. Mitte xxx.	
℞	Mag. Sulph.	ʒ i.
	Ac. Sulph. dil.	ʒ ij.
	Tr. Podoph.	ʒ ij.
	Syr. Zingib.	ʒ i.
	Aq. Menth. Pip.	ad. ʒ vi.
	♏ *ft.* mist.	

—[10 marks.]

7. Translate into full Latin, give directions in English, and give quantities required—

℞	Resorcin.	
	Acid Boric.	aa 2½ ʒ
	Aquæ	ad. ʒ x.

Ft. collyr. ʒ i. ex. aq. oss. b ut pro. dext. oct L. noct et mane. et merid.

℞	Cocain. Mur.	gr. 1½
	Eucain B.	gr. 1½
	Ac. Boric.	gr. ij.
	N.S.S.	1·75 ad. ʒ fs.

Ft. gtt ocul.

♏ j in dex. ocul. post ut. Lot. t.d.

—[10 marks.]

8. How would you volumetrically estimate and what percentage of purity is required in—

(*a*) Aq. Calcis.
(*b*) Plumbi Acetas.
(*c*) Pot. Brom.
(*d*) Ac. Hydrocyan. dil.
(*e*) Potass. Permanganas.

—[15 marks.]

What is the principle upon which the volumetric estimation of liquids and solids is based? —[5 marks]

Section I. (b)—Practical Dispensing and Prescription Reading. Examiners: Messrs. Buckler, Gulliver, and Sayer. Practical Dispensing. Time allowed: One hour and a half. N.B.—It is expected that the work will be completed within the specified time. If the time specified is exceeded, marks will be deducted.

1. R Strychninæ gr. 1/30
   Acid. Arsen. gr. 1/40
   Aloin gr. 1/8
   Ferri. Redact grs. ii. ss. m. *ft.* pil. i.
   Mitte xxiv. varnish
   Sig. 1. ter die post cib.
2. R Ol. Morrhuæ ℥ iv.
   Pulv. Gum. Acacia ʒ i.
   Syrup Simpl. ʒ i.
   Aq. Cinnam. ad. ℥ viii.
   M. *ft.* Emuls.
   Sig. Cap. Coch. mag. ter in die.
3. R Ung. Sulph. Iodid. ʒ i.
   ft. ung
   Sig. Utend nocte maneque.

No. 2.

At the termination of the Practical Dispensing Examination. Candidates will be examined orally in Prescription Reading.

Section III. (a).—Written Work.—Examiners: Dr. D. Avery, M.Sc., and Mr. A. W. Craig, M.A. Time allowed: Three hours. 1. Describe the method employed in separating the following:—

(*a*) A solid from a liquid in which it is insoluble.
(*b*) A solid from a liquid in which it is soluble.
(*c*) Two miscible liquids.
(*d*) Two immiscible liquids.

2. Describe, giving equations, the official method of preparation of—potassium chlorate, potassium permanganate, sodium hypophosphate, sodium salicylate, sulphonal, iodoform.

3. What reactions occur in mixtures containing the following?—

(*a*) Liq. Ferri. Perchlor. and Pot. Iodide
(*b*) Syr. Ferri. Iod. and Pot. Chlor.
(*c*) Plumbi Acet. and Zinci Sulph.
(*d*) Aspirin and Sod. Bicarb.

4. Give the sources, preparation, physical, and chemical properties of Iodine.

Give the modes of preparing the official iodides.

5. How are Acetum, Acidum Aceticum, and Acidum Aceticum Glaciale prepared?

What is the best indicator to use in the volumetric estimation of Acidum Aceticum? Why cannot litmus be used? Why cannot the strength of Acidum Aceticum Glaciale be determined from its specific gravity?

6. A volume of 10 c.c. of KOH solution required for complete neutralisation 13 c.c. of $N_1 \times 1.05$ H_2SO_4.

What volume of this solution will be required to make a pint of Liquor Potassæ, B.P., containing 6.10 g. of KOH, per 100 c.c.

[$H_2SO_4 = 97.31$. KOH = 55.71]

7. Write a short Essay on the volatile and fixed oils.

NOTICES.

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Pharmacy Board of New South Wales.

THE NEXT PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION will be held on 17th and 18th June, 1915. Authors for 1915 are Scott's "Lady of the Lake," Canto 2 with introductory stanzas, and Caesar, De Bello Gallico, Book 5.

A. FORSTER Registrar,
7 Richmond Terrace, Domain.

Sydney, 8th February, 1915.

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.
ENGLISH TEXT BOOK.

The Text Book in English for the Preliminary Examination to be held in September and December, 1915, and March and June, 1916, will be:—

A Victorian Anthology (M. P. Hansen.)
Part I.

To be memorised—

Tennyson—*Three Songs* and *Crossing the Bar*
Browning—*Prospice*.
Kipling—*Flag of England*.
Henley—*England*.
Newbolt—*Clifton Chapel*.
Cuthbertson—*Sunrise*.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIA.

THE 58th ANNUAL MEETING of the Members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia will be held at the College of Pharmacy, Swanston-street, Melbourne, on Tuesday, 23rd March, 1915, at 8.30 o'clock p.m.

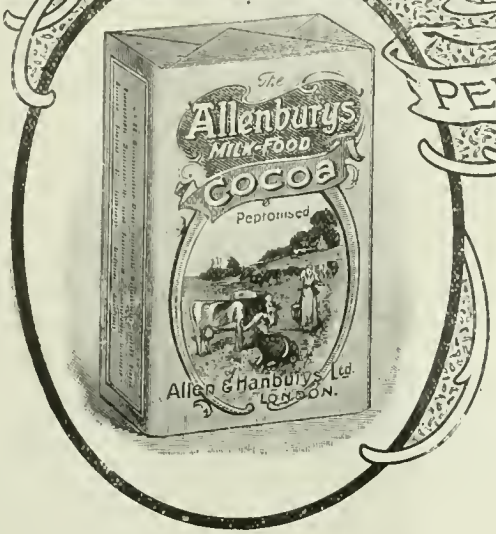
BUSINESS.

1. To confirm the minutes of the 57th annual meeting, and to deal with any business arising therefrom.
2. Election of Four Members of the Council, and Two Auditors.
3. Adoption of Annual Report and Financial Statements.
4. President's Address.
5. To consider the following matters, of which notice has been given:—
   (*a*) Army Commissions for pharmacists.
   (*b*) Proposed Annual Practising Fee.
   (*c*) Rates for Lodge Dispensing.
   (*d*) Equipment of new Buildings.
6. To transact any other business of which due notice has been given.

C. L. BUTCHERS,
Secretary.

"Allenburys"

Milk-Food Cocoa



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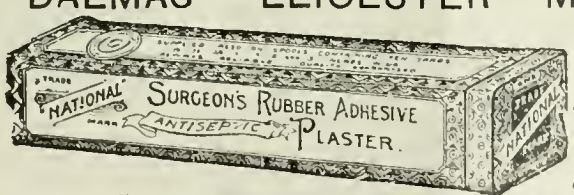

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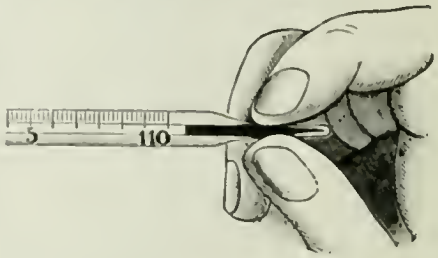

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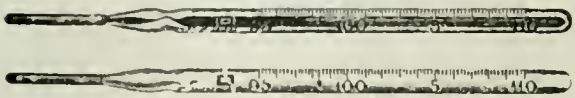

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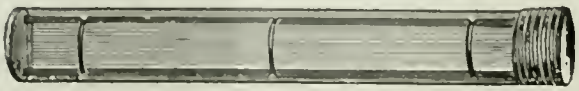

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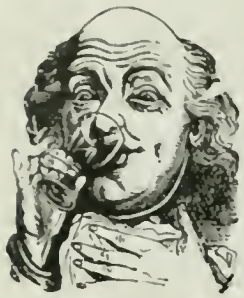
C. L. BUTCHERS,
Registrar



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Pharmacy Board Notices.

MEDICAL ACT 1890, PART III.

THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

AS required by Section 88, Sub-section 4 of the "Medical Act 1890," Part III., is held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, Swanston Street, Melbourne, in MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, DECEMBER.

Next Examination: TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, 1st and 2nd June, 1915.

The following are the compulsory subjects:—

LATIN.—Grammar, accidence and syntax. Translation of simple sentences into Latin. Translation into English from Cæsar, De Bello, Gallico, Book I., Chapter 1-29, inclusive, or Vergil Aeneid, Book I., Lines 1-401, inclusive.

ENGLISH.—Grammar and Composition. Literature. The University Text Book in English.

ARITHMETIC.—First four rules, simple and compound; vulgar and decimal fractions; simple and compound proportion; profit and loss; simple and compound interest; true and commercial discount and present worth; extraction of square root; British and metrical system of weights and measures; problems relating to lineal, square and cubic measurements, averages.

ALGEBRA.—Notation, symbolic expressions, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Highest common factor and lowest common multiple. Fractions, cyclic order. Extraction of square root. Proof of algebraical identities. Simple equations of one and two variables. Quadratic equations of one variable. Equational problems.

GEOMETRY.—Euclid, Books I. and II.

N.B.—The following propositions of Euclid are of secondary importance, and need not be studied for the Examination:—

Book I.—Propositions 2, 7 (if Prop. 8 is proved by the method independent of 7, which is given in all modern text-books), 24, and 25.

Book II.—Propositions 6, 8, 10.

The two Corollaries to Prop. 32, Book I., will be treated as propositions.

TIME-TABLE.

FIRST DAY.

Latin	...	10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Arithmetic	...	2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

SECOND DAY.

English	...	9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.
Algebra	...	12.30 p.m. to 2.20 p.m.
Euclid	...	3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

TEXT BOOKS.

The following text books are recommended by the Examiner:—

LATIN.—Accidence, syntax and composition. Allen's Elementary Latin Grammar. Allen's First Latin Exercise Book.

ENGLISH.—Accidence, syntax, and analysis. Any good school treatise, such as Nesfield's Outline of English Grammar, omitting Part V.

ARITHMETIC.—Any good school treatise.

ALGEBRA.—Any good school treatise. Longman's Junior School Algebra will be found a serviceable book.

Geometry.—Any good school treatise on Euclid, Books I. and II. The editions by Hall and Stevens, Smith and Bryant, A. E. Laying or R. Deakin (University Tutorial Series), may be mentioned as thoroughly satisfactory manuals.

EXAMINATION QUESTIONS.

The questions given at the examinations are published in the "Australasian Journal of Pharmacy" for March, June, September and December in each year. 1s. a copy.

PASS STANDARD.

THE marks for a pass in any of the compulsory subjects of the Preliminary Examination shall not be less than 50 per cent. of the maximum marks of 100, and an aggregate of 60 per cent. in all the subjects.

ENGLISH TEXT BOOK, JUNE, 1915.

The English Text Book for June, 1915, will be "Selected English," by Ray Phillips, omitting "Alexander's Feast," by Dryden.

To be memorized:

Shelley—*Ode to the West Wind.*
Arnold—*The Church of Brou. Part III.*
Byron—*Childe Harold. Canto III., xvi to xxviii.*
Keats—*Ode to a Grecian Urn.*
Wordsworth—*O Nightingale.*
Wordsworth—*To a Skylark.*

Candidates must give written notice of their intention to present themselves, together with the Fee of One Guinea, TEN DAYS prior to the date fixed for the examination.

REPORTS ON PAPERS.

REGULATION 57.—Any candidate who desires a report on any of the written papers submitted by him at any examination shall, within fourteen days of the publication of the results of such examination, lodge with the Registrar an application for a report on such papers, and shall pay the following fees:—

Preliminary Examination: 10/6 for any or all of such papers.
Intermediate or Final Examination: 10/6 for each paper to be reported on.

INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION.

MATERIA MEDICA, BOTANY, CHEMISTRY, AND PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY.

THE EXAMINATION of Students who have attended the Lectures in the above subjects is held half-yearly in June and December. The next examination will be held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY on 3rd, 4th, 5th and 8th June, 1915. The Examination Fee of Two Guineas must be paid before that date.

THE FINAL EXAMINATION.

The next FINAL EXAMINATION IN PRACTICAL PHARMACY before the Board will be held at the College of Pharmacy on the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th June, 1915.

Candidates must give ten days' written notice of their intention to present themselves. Indentures of Apprenticeship and the Certificates required by Section 88, Sub-division 4, of "The Medical Act 1890," Part III. must be lodged with the Registrar, and the Fee of Three Guineas paid ten days prior to the day of examination.

C. L. BUTCHERS, Registrar.

Office of the Pharmacy Board, Swanston Street, Melbourne.

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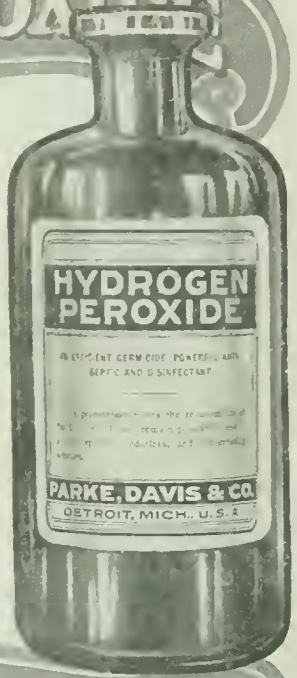

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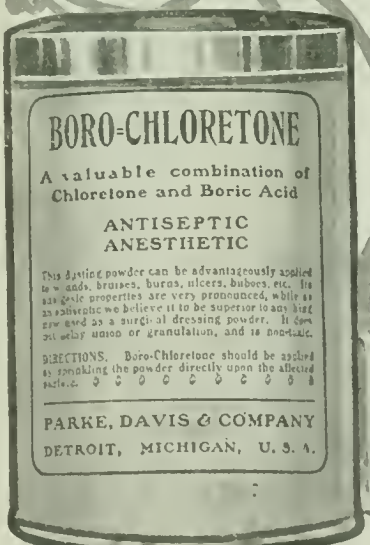
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